

AWM52
2nd Australian Imperial Force and
Commonwealth Military Forces unit war
diaries, 1939-45 War

Item number: 8/3/23

2/23 Infantry Battalion

September 1941

SEPTEMBER 1941.

WAR DIARY

PAGE 1.

Army Form C. 2118.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
RIGHT SALIENT -----	1	0800	Enemy shelling has shown a sharp decrease, but is still above normal. His night firing is considerably subdued. Following careful observation, a small area approx 200x square has been selected, on which it is intended to bring harassing fire by all arms as per Bn Op Instn No 12.	Int Summaries Appx 1 Appx 2.
TOBRUK WEST. -----		2000	The Dummy OP poles continue to cause an expenditure of valuable amm by the enemy. Up to date 200 rds have been fired at them. Major General MOORSHEAD visited the Bn, inspecting posts R10 (C Coy HQ) R9 and R8.	Int Summary 67.
	2	0800	The situation remains normal, but still active. Our OP in Forbes Mound has been discovered and blown to pieces by enemy arty. In its stead we are now occupying an OP near A Coy HQ, which affords good observation over the centre and left flank. The weather is warm to hot but nights becoming much cooler.	Int Summary 68.
		2320	Area Z successfully harassed according to plan, but of course, casualties cannot be estimated.	
	3	1400	The enemy increased his arty fire, probably in retaliation of our harassing tactics last night. It is significant that no fire has since come from Z area. Work continues on fwd sec posts and further development of CT's etc. Notwithstanding the 20600 X of sig wire we have laid to provide metallic circuits to all coys HQs, the system is still far from secure, because pls frequently have to be hooked direct to BHQ for such purposes as observing registration by our arty etc. At least 5 different types of phones (mostly instruments rebuilt in the field from captured materials) and 3 types of switch-boards add further complications and considerably increase upkeep work. Similar problems apply to weapons and amm. The Bn possesses almost every type of GERMAN and ITALIAN MG, everyone of which is pressed into service. We are using several captured 81 mm mortars, but have to manufacture our own propellant charges, which gives a range of 2600/2700X as compared with 4000/4500X possible with the ITALIAN charge. The many difficulties arising from such a variety of eqpt XXXX need not be stressed here, but their adaptation, maintenance, and supply, pays silent tribute to the enterprise and ingenuity of the officers and men of this Bn.	Int Summary 69.
	4	0300	"X" area was harassed by all arms for 15 mins, when all proceeded according to plan - ref -	Appx 2
		0800	The situation is normal with shelling slightly above average.	
		2340	"Y" area subjected to our planned harassing fire, and casualties most likely inflicted. The day has been hot and trying.	Int Summary 70

B. Swain

WAR DIARY

or

PAGE 2.

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	5	0800	Shelling has been normal and the situation well in hand, with our fire right on top throughout the night.	Int Summary 71
		2000	The day has been quiet, with the enemy content to remain underground.	
	6	0430	"X" area harassed by all arms for 15 mins.	Appx 3 Int Summary 72
		0800	Enemy shelling again normal.	
		2000	Further areas have been selected for harassing shoots as per addendum to Op Instn No 12. Daylight activity has again been slight, but our mortars were again used with destructive effect on enemy posns.	
	7	0800	Enemy shelling has been normal. Our mortars inflicted casualties as several enemy SB's were seen removing injured men. An MG was knocked out with Boys rifle fire and small qty amm exploded at the same time. Last night we saw the enemy using Donkeys for tpt during reconstruction of his damaged defences. It was between the hours of 2100 and 2300 hrs, the "Ration period" when neither side engages in hostilities. This "understood" "quiet" period enables rationing to be carried out without interruption, and doubtless the enemy is disinclined to break the "custom" which has come about. It suits both sides equally. Bde advise of our forthcoming relief (night o/10) by 2/24 Bn and our Op Instn No 11 issued	Int Summary 73 Appx 4
	8	0245	Area "X2" harassed for 13 mins as per plan.	Int Summary 74
		0330	Area "Z" harassed for 17 mins by all arms, according to plan (refer Appx 3). Screams were heard immediately after the shoot, indicating casualties.	
		0800	Enemy shelling has been much heavier, but no casualties were suffered.	
		1600	Weather hot and uncomfortable, but everyone feels considerably XXXXXX restored after the cool nights.	
		2350	Area "Y2" was subjected to an "all arms" harass for 17 mins without retaliation by the enemy.	
	9	0800	Shelling has been the heaviest recorded during our tour of duty in this sector, but without casualty or damage. Our mortars caused considerable damage to enemy sangars and other defensive posns. All preparations in hand for relief tonight by the 2/24 Bn. A report on the harassing shoots submitted to Bde by Lt-Col B. EVANS.	Appx 5 Int Summary 75
		0900	Lt-Col SPOWERS with his advanced HQ arrives.	
		2200	Tps moving through and everything quiet. 41 OR's marched in from 26 Aust Inf Tng Bn.	

R. Marshall

B. Evans

WAR DIARY

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PAGE 3.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices	
TOBRUK WEST BLUE LINE	10	0214	Relief complete, and Bn now moving back to the res posn on the "BLUE" line. Hand over infn	Appx 5A	
		0420	All coys now in res posn. BHQ established in a small re-entrant near a feature called "PIMPLE" ref 40334315. This Pimple is a mound of earth which has been excavated from an old Roman Cistern cut out of rock. It is a huge thing, measuring approx 50' X 90' and being 15' from floor to ceiling. It is used to accomodate Sigs, Int Sec, and Ord Room.		
		1200	Lt-Col B. EVANS inspecting Coy areas and all tps quickly settling in and enjoying some freedom of movement. A "Rest" camp by the sea has been set up at ref 40734386 so that small drafts of offr and men can have a good "clean up", take some exercise, and relax after a long strenuous period.		
		2100	There has been no enemy shelling of our area, and the situation fwd is reported to be normal.	Int Summary 76	
		11	1200	Everything is quiet, weather hot, but an evening breeze from the coast brings a rapid fall in temperature. On this posn the Bn is responsible for dealing with air-borne tps or parachutists as per Op Instn No 13. Summary of infn submitted to Bde.	Appx 6 Appx 7
		12	1800	Situation quiet, weather mild. In accordance with its counter attack role, Bn Op Instn No 14 issued at 2030 hrs.	Appx 8
		13	2000	The defensive posns in this area reveals a deplorable lack of co-ordination and development. For instance the right and right centre coy areas, occupied by C & B coys respectively. During the 1st and 2nd weeks of April (5 months ago) these posns were dug by our C and A Coys and yet the long period intervening reveals little or no further work being done. Indeed some of the CTs etc have deteriorated. Lieut A. H. Rundle rejoined unit from O.C.T.U. and Lieut T.H. Matthews marched in from 26 Aust Inf Tng Bn.	
		14	2000	A quiet day - no shelling of our area - weather mild.	
		15	2000	Reports indicate all quiet along FDLs. Weather mild. Bde notifies Bn that it will relieve 2/48 Bn on Left Salient Sector on night 17/18 Sep.	
		16	1400	Situation quiet. Major P.E. Spier evacuated to hospital - sick. Bn Op Order No 12 (In connection with relief of 2/48 Bn) issued at 1815 hrs.	Appx 9

B Evans

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WAR DIARY

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PAGE 4.

Army Form C. 2118.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	16	1600	Preparations in hand for relief. All recces have been made and nucleus parties are in posn. Lieuts G. M. Thirlwell and N. H. Hodges evacuated sick to hospital.	
		1930	Lt-Col B. EVANS called a conference of Coy cmds, drawing particular attention to - (a) A POLISH Bn will be on our left flank - experience NOT known - language difficulties etc. (b) PW's recent statement that large scale attacks on TOBRUK simultaneously from EAST & WEST are planned during Sep. (c) The Bn on our right are strangers to that sector, (d) We will be strangers to our sector. (e) The importance of maintaining "fire" superiority over the enemy as in the past. (f) Immediate check of Fire plan. (g) Early selection of enemy's strong posts with view to bringing concentrations of fire to bear by all arms.	
	17	1200	Situation normal - weather mild.	
		1930	Lt-Col B. EVANS leaves for fwd sector arriving 2045 hrs at BHQ (ref 40274284). Discusses the sector with Major BATTEN, Cnd 2/48 Bn.	
		2200	Our tps moving in quietly. Situation normal.	
	18	0024	Relief complete - all coys reporting move completed without incident.	
		0800	A quiet night and tps settled in. A strong breeze from NE raised clouds of dust all day reducing visibility to 150 yds. 42 OR's marched in From 26 Aust Inf Tng Bn.	Int Summary 77.
	19	1400	To the WEST, the enemy avoids daylight movement and no observations gained. To the SOUTH along the escarpment (about 3000X from our FDLs) many occupied posns can be seen and tps move about freely, suggesting that they have not been harassed.	
		1847	Six gps of enemy, each of approx 1 Pl strength assembled at foot of escarpment (ref 3992420 to 40054246) and soon afterwards moved to within 1800X of the perimeter - the fwd gp were in extended line. Arty fire was immediately called for through the Arty LO at BHQ. There was considerable delay in gaining communication with the CO of the Arty Regt, whose approval had to be sought before fire could be directed on the target. (It was out of range to the 4.5 Hows and the Bty in support of the POLISH Bn on our left was along capable of engaging the posn). Finally after about 30 mins delay, 3 rds were fired, but failing light prevented all observation. The experience revealed a difficulty in obtaining fire on this area which is on the Bde bdy, and Lt-Col EVANS promptly took steps to have it rectified.	

Evans

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or
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PAGE 5.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			To safeguard against possible attack, additional standing patrols were sent out, but by 2140 hrs, each coy reported no movement and the situation was again normal.	Int Summary 78
	20	1200	A clear mild day with slight NORTH breeze. Shelling has again been slight, and the situation is normal. It is learnt that the 2/12 Regt R.A.A. is being relieved today by an English Regt which has recently arrived.	Int Summary 79
		2000	Our mortars inflicted 5 casualties and caused considerable damage to enemy posns during the afternoon - full details in Summary.	Int Summary 80
	21	0800	We made no contacts, and standing patrols reported NMS throughout the night. MGs were active with out tps always finishing "on top".	
		2000	The enemy is using mortars more freely than a few days ago, but still on a restricted scale. His shelling is slight. Weather mild with cool nights. Our mortars were again successful, blowing up two large sangars and (judging by the column of smoke) a supply of amm also.	Int Summary 80
	22	0800	A beautiful clear calm morning - no dust. The night was quiet and situation generally is normal.	
		1100	Lt-Col EVANS called a conference with Arty LO, MG Bn (1 RNF) and Mortar Offr, outlining plans to harass the enemy by timed concentration by all arms on small selected areas known to be strongly occupied, and containing MMGs and Mortars. Previous experience has shown that carefully planned harassing shoots of this type are most likely to cause maximum casualties and damage, so the course adopted is expected to bear fruit.	
		1600	Bde advise that harassing shoots must be temporarily postponed to allow the Engineers to lay A Tk mines across our front.	Int Summary 81
	23	0800	A quiet night - situation normal. The enemy's shelling has decreased conspicuously, which gives rise to speculation whether he has shifted some btys to another front, or if a large op is being planned. His targets in our area have not become less, and it seems hardly likely that his supplies have suddenly been exhausted. All shelling infn is being studied carefully to determine the cause. The 2/12 Fd Regt R.A.A. are being relieved by an R.A. Regt and reliefs of the A Tk sub-units are also being effected. The incoming personnel have only been in TOBRUK a few days, and consequently are strange to the area, so Lt-Col EVANS decided to equip one pl of A Coy as a tk hunting unit in case a "break through" should be effected by the enemy. We experienced	

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~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

PAGE 6

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
		1130	language difficulty when trying to communicate with 2 POLISH Bn on our left, so personally liaised with them during afternoon. As a result, it is felt that closer liaison can be maintained in future, and the POIES have agreed to give us immediate advice of any development on their sector. Such advice is a normal procedure with us. Fortunately 2 of their offrs speak ENGLISH reasonably well. It is interesting to note that during the whole of the time we have been in action, flanking units have liaised with us only after we have visited them and arranged it first. As soon as we take up a posn, we visit our flanks to exchange infn, whereas other units apparently wait until someone calls on them. During mine laying in D Coy area, 1 OR of 2/3 Fd Coy was killed by an A/P mine or "Booby Trap". Bn Op Instn 15 issued in connection with res Coy counter attack role.	Int Summary 82. Appx 10
	24	0800	A quiet night - no contacts but enemy posns were again bombarded by our mortars at 0600 and 0617 hrs this morning, causing damage to breastworks etc.	Int Summary 83.
		1200	Weather fine and clear. Situation quiet.	
	25	1400	Successful mortar shoots were carried out, causing considerable damage and casualties which were seen to be taken away by SBs. We made no close contacts but harassed the enemy at every opportunity. Weather mild and clear - a few drops of rain fell at 0630 hrs. Situation normal.	Int Summary 84.
	26	1400	Further activity by our Mortars but otherwise fairly quiet. Weather cool.	
		1800	Major HOSE and Lieut THOMAS of 1 Bn BEDFORDSHIRE & HERTFORDSHIRE Regt have arrived to spend a few days with the object of learning the sector.	
		1830	26 Bde Op Order No 10 received, in reference to forthcoming relief of Bde by POLISH Bde, under which we will return to PILASTRINO. The enemy brought down intense Arty, Mortar, and MG fire on B Coy for 6 mins, landing 115 shells, but causing no damage or casualties.	
		2309	D Coy report Cpl BROWN killed by A/P mine during tape laying ops to the Bn on our right. This sector is heavily infested with A/P and A/Tk mines, and Booby Traps, necessitating special caution. Tapes are laid to mark routes and it was during the laying of such a tape to the right flank, that Cpl Brown met his death. He was in charge of a covering party XX and 3 men had walked ahead of him over a XXXX portion of the route which was considered "clear".	Int Summary 85
	27	1400	Situation normal - little activity. Weather fine and mild.	<i>Shaw</i>

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WAR DIARY

PAGE 7

Army Form C. 2118.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
		1800	Our mortars and supporting Arty did excellent shooting on enemy MG and mortar posns - debris flew high in the air and a loud explosion occurred - probably grenades or mortar bombs.	Int Summary 86
	28	0800	A quiet night - much less MG fire than usual.	
		1800	During the afternoon there has been much more aerial activity by the enemy, with a constant drone of planes to the SOUTH.	Int Summary 87
	29	0800	Our sector was extremely quiet during the night, but there was a heavy concentration of Arty fire NORTH of DERNA rd early this morning. It is learnt that this was fired by 1 CARPATHIAN Regt in Support of a raid made by 1 POLISH CAV Regt. Weather very dusty during afternoon - visibility 2/300 yds.	Int Summary 88
	30	1400	Enemy activity has been very slight and dusty conditions have restricted our ops. Major General MARTIN, G.O.C. 6 DIV (ENGLISH) visited the unit and talked with Lt-Col EVANS. Bn OP Instr No 16 issued - APPX 11. and Bn OP ORDER No 13 issued. APPX 12A.	Int Summary 89 APPX'S 11 & 12A
			<u>OTHER APPENDICES</u>	
			12. Action Diary	
			13. Patrol Reports	
			14. Observers logs	
			15. Field Returns	
			16. CO's monthly report	
			17. RMO's " "	
			17A. HAND OVER INFORMATION.	
			18. QM's monthly report	
			19. TO's " " NOT Submitted.	
			20. Disposn maps	
			21. Sketches etc.	
			22. Routine Orders.	
			23. Regt Publication "Mud & Blood".	

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*Amckoy Unit
To 2/23 Aus Inf Bn*

CO
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AM 1/9

SECRET

1 Sep 41.

2/23 AUST INF BN INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY N O 67.

Compiled from info received up to 1400 hrs 1 Sep 41.

Ref Ma ps TOBRUK 1/50,000 RAS EL MEDAWA SALIENT 1/20,000.
SOLLUM - TOBRUK 1/250,000.

1. GENERAL.

(a) Bn Sector Enemy night activity has declined and shelling is almost back to normal. Daylight activity remains negligible. No contacts were made.

(b) TOBRUK area. Situation normal. 2/1 Pioneer Bn is occupying WHITE KNOLL as an outpost. In the SE Sector 2 patrols contacted the enemy and inflicted 29 casualties. Shelling normal in WEST and EAST but heavier in the SOUTH. During this morning's Air Raid several bombs were dropped near a tp posn of 1 Carp Regt but caused neither damage or casualties.

(c) Other Areas. There is little to report from the Frontier. In the Coastal area, small exchanges of arty fire are being continued. MT movement is back to normal, while the Desert and Oasis fronts are all quiet.

Tac R 0930 hrs - 16 MT, 12 AFVs at BIR NUH.
7 tks, 6 Armd Cars at SIDI SULEIMAN 40 MT
incl AFVs in BP 38 area. 25 MT and 3 guns
NW SIDI OMAR.

Tac R 1700 hrs ± 140 MT WEST of RAPID RIDGE.

The dumps at BARDIA were attacked 29 Aug, bombs falling well in the target area and several heavy explosions were caused and some fires were started.

A dusk attack was carried out against BENGASI Harbour, three of our bombers coming down to 50 ft. One of our recon planes was attacked by 11 ME 110s on its return journey and was shot down. Fighters protecting our shipping had no engagements with enemy aircraft.

2. OUR GROUND ACTIVITY.

(a) Patrols. C Coy Standing Patrols and L.Ps report NMS. A Coy recon patrol went to 39854309 reporting German and Italian voices heard and working parties active along the escarpment but NMS. L.Ps along Coy front report NMS. B Coy L.Ps also report NMS.

(b) Other activities. The relief of D Coy by B Coy was carried out without incident and on this account it was desired to keep fire down to a minimum. Yesterday the 3" Mortar engaged diggings at 39904303 (where movement had been seen) with 12 bombs. The dummy OP Pole at 39904324 was re-erected last night but only drew slight enemy arty fire this morning. The second one at 40124307 has withstood all attempts by the enemy. Together, these 2 poles has caused an expenditure of over 200 rds up to date.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

There has been the usual activity at THREE PIMPLES where 2 or 3 enemy are seen several times during the hours of daylight. Apart from this movement the enemy has not shown himself in the fwd areas. Several MT were observed to approach OLD VILLAGE at 1945 hrs, pick up a cargo and drive away. It is suspected they may have picked up casualties as the 2/12 Fd Regt had shelled the area just previously. It is thought the enemy movement heard in his FDLs opposite our left Coy on night 30/31 Aug may have been a Coy relief. During night 30 Aug 1 Sep sound of MT probably a tractor was heard in vicinity of MEDAWA HILL.

4. SHELLING.

Shelling has been much less - 213 as compared with 478 for previous 24 hrs - but still above average.

SHELLING (Contd)

C Coy	45 shells	107 Mortars.
A Coy	12 shells	--
B Coy	41 shells	--
D Coy	--	--
BIR	8	--

5. OUR DISPOSNS. D Coy has been relieved by B Coy otherwise disposns are the same.
6. METEOROLOGICAL. - Local time - 2 Sep.

Sun rises	0658 hrs	Sets	1948 hrs	
Moon "	1732 "	Sets	0433 hrs	3 Sep

Querry

Lieut

I.O. 2/23 Aust Inf Bn.

2 Sep 41

2/23 AUST INF BN INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 68.

Compiled from infn received up to 1400 hrs 2 Sep 41.

Ref Maps TOBRUK 1/50,000 RAS el MEDAUUA^R SALIENT 1/20,000.
SOLLUM - TOBRUK 1/250,000.

1. GENERAL.

(a) Bn Sector. Shelling in the Bn area was slightly more than the previous 24 hrs. During the night two patrols were made outside the wire, but no contacts with the enemy. The aggressive policy of harassing opportunity targets throughout the night with MG fire, has again been successful.

(b) TOBRUK area. No changes in the general situation. Enemy shelling normal all fronts with concentration of fire on area just SOUTH of DERN Rd early yesterday morning. A fighting patrol in the SE Sector contacted the enemy and is thought to have inflicted casualties. Our casualties three minor.

(c) Other Areas. At the Frontier, the situation remains without change. Fifteen MT (incl AFVs) were observed EAST of SCHEFERZEN. Blasting and increased MT movement have been apparent in the el KINIBISI area. Enemy arty have shelled 533354, 516352 and 518355, whilst reports have come to hand of considerable shelling of BIR THIDYAN. Many of the latter shells, however, were "duds". Blasting continues at BIR NUH, HALFAYU and SCHEFERZEN. Tac R 12 30 hrs reveals 20 MT (mostly tanks) at CAPUZZO, 130 MT at 29 BP area. Tac R 1400 hrs reveals eight tks and twelve MT at BIR NUH, fifteen tks and four MT at SIDI SULEIMAN.

2. OUR GROUND ACTIVITY.

(a) Patrols. "B" Coy patrol of 1 NCO & 20Rs searched an area of ground 15 yds wide 45 yds forward of their left Pl. Found no signs of mines-booby traps or other obstacles. Old diggings were noticed 6' in front of our wire with a crawl trench running back in the direction of the enemy lines around which were numerous footmarks not more than three days old. No movement was seen or heard, patrol returning 0045 hrs.

"C" Coy recce patrol of 1 NCO & 40Rs went to 39744316 where a single row of A/Tk mines was discovered running on bearing of 20 degs, and it was again crossed at 39754318. A track encountered at 39734316 was followed NORTH to 39734319 but NMS, patrol returning 09. Normal standing patrols and listening posts forward of C.A & B Coys reported NMS.

(b) Other activities. Following the opening of apertures to increase area of vision the OP at Forbes Mound was detected by the enemy and 23 shells from one gun directed at it causing 6 direct hits, blasting the front wall and rendering it useless as an OP. Observation over the left Coy front is being made from a new post in the centre sector. At 0315 hrs 1 Sep "B" Coy engaged an enemy working party (39944302 to 39974299) with MGs preventing further work for the night. Earlier in the evening an enemy MG at 398643 08 was also engaged and ~~shelled~~ silenced. No targets were engaged by our mortars.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

Constant observation has revealed only slight movement of the enemy, singly or in gps of 2 or 3 around areas THREE PIMPLES, 39744316, 39444316, 39614315. 2 MT and a suspected AFV were observed moving along ridge from approx 39504315 to 39634311.

4. SHELLING

A total of 244 shells and mortars as against 213 for the previous 24 hrs has been reported as under:-

C Coy	50 shells	83 mortars
A Coy	8 "	3 "
B Coy	83 "	-
Other areas 4 shells.		

5. ENEMY DISPOSNS.

MG	39864308
Works in progress	39944302 to 39974299.

6. AERIAL ACTIVITY.

The divebombing and HL attack at 1145 hrs yesterday made by 76 EA including 45 JU 87s, attacked two 3.7 AA sites and fd bty area. HL attack scattered bombs over a wide area with little effect, many falling in enemy's own lines well outside our Southern perimeter. Four 3.7 guns were damaged but all are in action again. Casualties 1 killed 7/8 wounded. A small quantity of ITALIAN amn was destroyed and several vehs at the VRD. One JU87 crashed in flames into the sea to the NW. Three probably shot down but at present unconfirmed. OWN Night 1/2 Sep our med bombers raided GAZALA LG at 2000 hrs followed by a large scale attack by our heavy bombers, at 2345 hrs on the same target.

7. OUR DISPOSNS remain unchanged.

8. ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE.

(a) It is learned from PsW captured in the Frontier area that large permanent workshops have been erected at BENGASI, whilst there are large mobile workshops at DERNA.
 (b) Recent Tac R reports over the Frontier area estimate AFVs as follows:- twelve at HALFAYU: main body (80 to 87) recently moved from HAFID Ridge to BP 38: about 39 at SIDI OMAR - SIDI SULEIMAN; MERSA RAMLA area, possibly ITALIAN tk harbour.
 Grand total less those at MERSA RAMLA is between 131 and 138 of which probably 22 are armd Cars.

9. ENEMY METHODS.

Between the ITALIAN and EGYPTIAN SIDI OMAR, the enemy have built thickly sand-bagged emplacements, in which tks or armd cars could lie up, and which would probably withstand a direct hit from a 25 pr. It is possible that some of the blasting in the fwd areas is caused by the construction of similar emplacements, whilst the main and gun positions are some little distance back - e.g., four explosions were observed at ABU SHALIF at 1130 hrs 30 Jun, whilst the main area of blasting is NORTH of QABR EL SHARQAN.
 It is reported that supplies for the civil population are becoming very short, except among the border tribes who still have plenty of looted flour.
 The amounts being distributed by the Italians to the civilian populace is quite inadequate - only coffee, grain flour and oil are available.
 The ration of flour is three kilos per person per fortnight and wheat may be issued in lieu of flour. Prices are prohibitive. Cigarettes manufactured in TRIPOLI have recently appeared on the market.
 After a decree which stated that $\frac{1}{2}$ of all ARAB flocks would be taken over by the Govt at regulation prices, a general complaint was made. As a result of this, the demand is said to have been reduced to one third, at any rate as a temporary measure.

10. METEOROLOGICAL. 3 Sep

Sun rises 0659 hrs	Sets 1947 hrs
Moon rises 1817 hrs	Sets 0535 hrs 4 Sep.

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Lieut

I.O. 2/23 Aust Inf Bn.

3 Sep 41

2/23 AUST INF BN INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 69.

Compiled from infn received up to 1400 hrs 3 Sep 41.

Ref Ma ps TOBRUK 1/50,000 HAS EL MEDAWAR SALIENT 1/20,000.
SOLLUM - TOBRUK 1/250,000.

1 GENERAL.

(a) Bn Sector. No contacts have been made with the enemy but our usual aggressive tactics were supplemented by intense harassing of a selected area last night. Enemy shelling was heavier but only one minor casualty reported. Situation generally is normal.

b) TOBRUK area Enemy shelling has been slightly above normal and new OPs in Southern Sector were heavily bombarded. Ground patrols made no contacts. 20 EA dropped bombs and probably mines between 2148 and 2359 hrs destroying a small qty of 18 pr amn causing damage to Admiralty House and killing 1 OR. A later raid 0424 to 0445 hrs caused neither damage nor casualty. The situation is normal.

(c) Other areas. The Frontier area remains quiet. One 379 bombed SIWA but did no damage.

Tac R 1110 hrs 1 Sep revealed 36 MT at SIDI SULBIMAN, six tanks and five MT EAST of the wire between BP38 and SIDI OMAR, thirty MT NW SIDI OMAR and eight AFVs SW of KINIBISH.

2 OUR GROUND ACTIVITY.

(a) Patrols. C Coy recon was prevented from reaching S7 area by heavy defensive fire put down by the enemy at 0435 hrs. Patrols and LP on Coys front reported HNS. A Coy recon towards WATER TOWER was frequently brought under MG and HMG and Mortar fire. The enemy also fired numerous flares. Sangar at 39804310, previously occupied as MG post, was empty but other MGs located at 39784308, 39904301 and a HMG approx 39784305. LPs along Coy front reported HNS.

B Coy recon went from BL 75X SOUTH then 2208 WEST reporting HNS. LPs reported approx 60 GERMANS seen moving quickly in area 39924304.

(b) Other Activities. Working to a carefully timed plan our fwd pos in B Coy directed harassing fire on area with a radius of 100x from 39884305. This was followed by HMG fire from HMF and then by 2/12 Pd Regt concluding with our 3" Mortars. Whilst casualties cannot be claimed, the area was subjected to very intense fire and it is significant that no weapons have since fired from the posn. The movement reported by B Coy LPs suggests an evacuation of the area following a fire.

3 ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

There have been no patrols encountered and movement in daylight very slight. Blasting was carried out last night in an area about 100X WEST of WATER TOWER which suggests a continuance of diggings (report a few days ago) between S6 & S7. Constant observation on THREE PIMPLES confirmed 3 MG posns at 39734312/3/4 from which point "blast dust" was seen this morning.

4 SHELLING

Shelling has increased - 402 shells against 244 for previous 24 hrs (to 0500 hrs).

C Coy	56 shells	72 Mortars
A Coy	37 "	23 "
B Coy	38 "	114 "
B Coy	32 "	12 "

Increase is probably retaliation for our intensified fire.

5 ENEMY DISPOSNS

3 MGs confirmed at 39734312/3/4. Also at 39784308, 39904301 with HMGs at 39784305 and 3 in vicinity S7.

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6. ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE.

(a) WDF consider that the gps of enemy tanks recently observed in the FRONTIER area and between TOBRUK - BARDIA indicate the following tank dispositions:-

Between MARSAM RAMLA and HAFID - One Regt possibly 8 Tk Regt.
MARSAM LUCOH - One Bn possibly of 5 Tk Regt.
WEST of GAMBUT - One Bn possibly of 5 Tk Regt.

In addition it is considered that there is an ITALIAN Tk Bn of M13 tks somewhere in the area and also the 15 lt tks of the SANTA MARIA coln.

(b) Enemy btys active in Western Sector of TOBRUK area comprise:-
5 Fd btys, 8 Med Btys, 3 unknown, total 11 btys.
Total for TOBRUK area ~~is~~ is estimated at 51 btys comprising
22 Fd, 15 Med, 1 Hy and 13 unknown.

7. ENEMY AERIAL ACTIVITY FOR AUG.

- (a) 195 attacks were made, compared with 231 for July.
- (b) 595 planes were engaged with AA fire compared with 758 for July.
- (c) 13 planes were shot down making a total of 81 since 9 Apr 41.

Comments During Aug there was a big increase in Dive-bombing, a slight increase in HL bombing by night and a heavy decrease in bombing by day.

8. FD WORKS. A Coy report report further crawl trench completed and general improving of posts has been carried out in All Coy areas.

9. METEOROLOGICAL. Local times (4 Sep.

SUN rises 0700 hrs Sets 1946 hrs.
MOON " 1857 " " 0633 "

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I.O. 2/23 Aust Inf Bn.

Compiled from infn received up to 1400 hrs 4 Sep 1941.
 Ref Maps -

TOBRUK 1/50,000 RAS EL MEDAUUAR SALIENT 1/20,000
 SOLLUM - TOBRUK 1/250,000.

C.O. (C) 08
 2IC (C) 08
 ADJ (C) 08
 I (C) 08
 23/9

1. GENERAL.

- (a) Bn Sector. No contacts were made with the enemy, but our aggressive tactics were again supplemented by intense harassing of a selected area early this morning. Enemy shelling has decreased and the situation generally is normal.
- (b) TOBRUK area. An air raid lasting from 2148 hrs to 2357 hrs was made on the harbour town area last night. Several salvos or sticks of bombs were dropped and it is possible that some mines were laid. Enemy arty fire has been normal in the West, slightly above normal in the East, but slightly increased in the South. A hy concentration of fire was put down by the enemy on an OP in the last mentioned area. Patrols penetrated deeply into the enemy lines, but no contact was made. TAC r : 200 MT between 400418 and 402417.
- (c) There is nothing to report from any sector at the FRONTIER.

2. OUR GROUND ACTIVITY.

- (a) Patrols. B Coy, 1 NCO, 2 ORs out BL 0430 hrs to search area for booby traps. Moved 40x SOUTH then 50x WEST. Report voices heard but NMS. Patrol returned 0530 hrs. LPs along Coy fronts report NMS.
- (b) Other Activities. At 0230 hrs a similar harassing fire to that of the night 2 Sep was carried out on area vicinity 39664322 according to pre-arranged plan. Casualties inflicted are not known, and little fire was returned by the enemy. 0238 hrs the enemy opened up with fixed lines of fire including Spandau on B Coy front. This was engaged and silenced by 4 guns from B Coy. 2010 hrs 1 Carp Arty registered area vicinity 39664322, When rd fell 20 enemy appeared so target was engaged and rds fell amongst enemy tps.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

No patrols were encountered, and only slight movement was observed. MGs were observed firing at 39744313, 39744311, and 39744314.

4. SHELLING.

Shelling has been lighter. 208 shells against 402 for previous 24 hrs (0500 hrs).

C Coy	58 shells	75 mortars
A "	24 "	3 "
B "	40 "	- "
D "	52 "	12 "
BHQ	3 "	- "

5. ENEMY DISPOSNS.

MG posns located at 39744313, 39744311, 39744314.

6. ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE.

- (a) Recent reports indicate that the A Tk and AA Units of the BRESCIA Div have been either reinforced or reorganised. It is believed that in addition to the 502 AA A Tk Coy they now have the 7 AA A Tk Coy and replacing the 5 A Tk Coy which was completely destroyed as a fighting unit in Apr they have the 227 A Tk Coy.
- (b) The concentration of 200 MT reported by TAC R in the area 400418 - 402417 is not considered unusual. Photographs taken of the area on 4 Aug showed considerable numbers of MT. These are probably the 1st Line tpt of the PAVIA Div.

7. GENERAL.

9 Aust Div reports 3 guns in SW fired salvos each three shells at 2300 hrs and 0230 hrs but no damage. Patrols did not contact enemy.

A. McKoy
 IO 2/23 Bn Lieut

5 Sep 41

2/23 Aust INF BN INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 71.

Compiled from infn received up to 1400 hrs 5 Sep 41.

Ref Maps TOBRUK 1/50,000 RAS EL MEDAUAR SALIENT 1/20,000
SOLUUM - TOBRUK 1/250,000.1. GENERAL.

A Bn Sector. No contacts were made with the enemy. Our aggressive tactics were again supplemented by intense harassing of area 39874310, night 4/5 Sep. Enemy shelling remains light and the situation generally is quiet.

(b) TOBRUK area. A few bombs were dropped from HL on Blue Line NORTH of DERNA rd yesterday afternoon. There were no air raids night 4/5 Sep. Shelling has been slight on FDLs and no contacts with enemy reported.

(c) Other Areas. There is nothing to report from the FRONTIER area. Tac R reported 18 MT and 9 APVs at BIR WAIR.

At 1200 hrs our fighters intercepted 16 ME 109s and 050s ground strafing a t SIDI BARANI. In the ensuing dog fight five 050s were confirmed shot down by our fighters and AA fire and another two are probable. We lost no planes.

2. OUR GROUND ACTIVITY.

(a) Patrols. Patrolled fwd of HL from 0230 hrs to 0400 hrs MMS, but voices and sounds of digging heard also blasting from several directions 1000X away. LF also reports sounds of digging and wheelbarrow heard.

(X) SP's and LP's along the Bn fronts reported MMS.

(b) Other activities. From 2330 hrs until 2347 hrs a strong enemy post on a radius of 150X from 39874310, was harassed by our own fire followed by 1 RR P with 4 vickers, then the Arty and finally by our own Blaz Mortars. Everything went to plan and it is felt confident that considerable damage and casualties were caused. A gp of enemy fwd of S7 were brought under MG fire by C Coy at 0600 hrs and quickly dispersed. At 1845 hrs an enemy post at 39944304 was bombarded with 30 Mortar bombs and close observation reveals that they fell on the target area.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

No patrols were detected. One small gp of enemy seen at THREE PIMPLE also gps of enemy moving about ridge 39504315 to 39654311. 7 MT also moved along this ridge and three small vehicles possibly MC's. This MT movement is above normal. His MG fire is less active and reveals a disinclination to engage in any duels with our fwd tps.

4. ENEMY SHELLING.

Shelling has been lighter 178 shells against 208 for previous 24 hrs.

C Coy	67 shells	44 Mortars
A Coy	11	"
B Coy	8	
D Coy	31	
BHQ	15	

Several rds (believed to be from 1 gun) fell on AC, AB & BR yesterday afternoon and may have been ranging shots. Whether there is any connection between this and the reduced arty activity is NOT known.

5. ENEMY DISPOENS. Suspected CP in Sangar 39894309 in which an aperture has been made.6. FD WKS. Under difficult conditions surprising progress has been made in all pl areas. Weapon pits have been developed - deepened and loop holed. Comm and crawl trenches have been made twice as deep and dugouts considerably improved.7. METEOROLOGICAL. Local time 6 Sep.

Sun rises	0701 hrs	Sets	1943 hrs
MOON	2011	Sets	0826

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(Compiled from infn received up to 14 00 hrs 6 Sep 41)

Ref Maps : TOBRUCH 1:50,000. RAS EL MEDAUUAR SALIENT 1:20,000.
SOLLUM - TOBRUCH 1:250,000.

1. GENERAL.

- (a) EA Sector - No contacts were made with the enemy, but again harassing of a selected area was carried out early this morning. Enemy shelling has decreased, and the situation generally is normal.
- (b) TOBRUK Area - The general situation is quiet. There were no bombing attacks - shelling decreased in WEST, increased in EAST and normal in SOUTHERN sector. No contacts were made with the enemy.
- (c) Other Areas - At MADDALENA one of our roving AA guns shot down an enemy plane and hit several others. 3 S 79's made a recce flight over GIARABUB.

2. OUR GROUND ACTIVITY.

- (a) Patrols - B Coy LP's reported blasting along whole front, nearest approx 300x with heaviest at approx 39654303. Other LP's report NBS.
- (b) Other Activities - At 0400 hrs prearranged harassing fire was put down on area vicinity 39664324/39674321. No activity has been reported from areas which have been dealt with previously. 1745 hrs Mortar det engaged enemy posns 39974301 with 20 X 10 lb bombs. One sangar was completely demolished, another the roof blown off, and bombs fell in crawl trenches effectively covering target areas.

ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

No patrols were encountered and little movement was observed. Two working parties were heard slightly EAST of Water Tower. MG firing from 39744312.

4. SHELLING.

Little alteration has been shown - 186 shells against 176 for the previous 24 hrs.

C Coy	51 shells	75 Mortars
A "	2 "	11 "
B "	7 "	-
D "	-	-
Other Areas	40 "	-

5. ENEMY DISPOSNS.

Observation reveals sangars at 39994309, 39674314, 39744307, to be occupied by day. MG posns were located at 39744321 also in a sangar 15X SE.

6. ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE.

Four Close Support Btys namely 24, 38, 56 and 90 are thought to be supporting the BRESCIA and PAVIA Divs at TOBRUK. These btys normally have 65/17 eqpts, but as no eqpts of this size have been identified it was presumed that they were using 75/27 weapons.

It is now suggested that these btys have got 65/17 guns, but they are held in reserve not being sufficiently powerful or having enough range to bombard and will only be encountered in major engagements or supporting "set piece" inf attacks.

7. ENEMY HABITS.

It is reported from the FRONTIER that comparatively few tks have been seen by our fwd tps lately. Occasionally a single tk accompanies a party of armd cars or attacks one of our armd car patrols. They have been also employed in a protective role with large cols of MT. Probably owing to his air recce the enemy appears not to anticipate trouble from our tks and is saving his tk strength and relying on armd cars as a mobile screen, which he thinks sufficiently strong to deal with the recce and protection of his FDLs.

8. ENEMY AFVs.

There have been several vague reports of tks in the TOBRUK area of late. It is realised that mirage and visibility conditions often make accurate identification of enemy AFVs impossible but the following pts of note on GERMAN tks may be helpful :-

- Mk I : 2 Coaxial 7.91 SPANDAU HBs, 32 m.p.h. over rds, has 5 bogie wheels, the rear four being covered by prominent girder.
- Mk II : One 20 mm HMG. One 7.91 SPANDAU. 25 m.p.h. on rds. Has 6 bogie wheels.

Mk III : One 50 mm Gun. 2 SPANDAU MGs. 28 m.p.h. on rds.
Has 6 bogie wheels.

Mk IV, : One 75 mm gun. 2 SPANDAU MGs. 28 m.p.h. on rds.
Has 6 bogie wheels.

R

Reports should always state types of tks where possible, or, at least, whether light (Mk I or II) or medium (Mk III or IV). It is also possible that ITALIAN M13 or CV33 tks may be seen.

9. METEOROLOGICAL.

Local times 7 Sep -

SUN rises	0702 hrs	Sets	1942 hrs
MOON "	2011 hrs	"	0826 hrs

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(Compiled from infn received up to 14 00 hrs 6 Sep 41) C.O. 06

Ref Maps : TOBRUCH 1:50,000. RAS EL MEDAUUAR SALIENT 1:20,000. 2 1/2
SOLLUM - TOBRUCH 1:250,000. J.M.G.

1. GENERAL.

- (a) Bn Sector - No contacts were made with the enemy, but again harassing of a selected area was carried out early this morning. Enemy shelling has decreased, and the situation generally is normal.
- (b) TOBRUK Area - The general situation is quiet. There were no bombing attacks - shelling decreased in WEST, increased in EAST and normal in SOUTHERN sector. No contacts were made with the enemy.
- (c) Other Areas - At MADDALENA one of our roving AA guns shot down an enemy plane and hit several others. 3 S 79's made a recce flight over GIARABUB.

2. OUR GROUND ACTIVITY.

- (a) Patrols - B Coy LP's reported blasting along whole front, nearest approx 300x with heaviest at approx 39854303. Other LP's report NMS.
- (b) Other Activities - At 0400 hrs prearranged harassing fire was put down on area vicinity 39664324/39674321. No activity has been reported from areas which have been dealt with previously. 1745 hrs Mortar det engaged enemy posns 39974301 with 20 X 10 lb bombs. One sangar was completely demolished, another the roof blown off, and bombs fell in crawl trenches effectively covering target areas.

ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

No patrols were encountered and little movement was observed. Two working parties were heard slightly EAST of Water Tower. MG firing from 39744312.

4. SHELLING.

Little alteration has been shown - 186 shells against 176 for the previous 24 hrs.

	C Coy	51 shells	75 Mortars
A "	2	"	11 "
B "	7	"	-
D "	-	"	-
Other Areas	40	"	-

5. ENEMY DISPOSNS.

Observation reveals sangars at 39894309, 39674314, 39744307, to be occupied by day. MG posns were located at 39744321 also in a sangar 15X SE.

6. ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE.

Four Close Support Btys namely 24, 38, 56 and 90 are thought to be supporting the BRESCIA and PAVIA Divs at TOBRUK. These btys normally have 65/17 eqpts, but as no eqpts of this size have been identified it was presumed that they were using 75/27 weapons.

It is now suggested that these btys have got 65/17 guns, but they are held in reserve not being sufficiently powerful or having enough range to bombard and will only be encountered in major engagements or supporting "set piece" inf attacks.

7. ENEMY HABITS.

It is reported from the FRONTIER that comparatively few tks have been seen by our fwd tps lately. Occasionally a single tk accompanies a party of armd cars or attacks one of our armd car patrols. They have been also employed in a protective role with large colns of MT. Probably owing to his air recce the enemy appears not to anticipate trouble from our tks and is saving his tk strength and relying on armd cars as a mobile screen, which he thinks sufficiently strong to deal with the recce and protection of his FDLs.

8. ENEMY AFVs.

There have been several vague reports of tks in the TOBRUK area of late. It is realised that mirage and visibility conditions often make accurate identification of enemy AFVs impossible but the following pts of note on GERMAN tks may be helpful :-

Mk I : 2 Coaxial 7.91 SPANAU MGs, 32 m.p.h. over rds, has 5 bogie wheels, the rear four being covered by prominent girder.

Mk II : One 20 mm HMG. One 7.91 SPANAU. 25 m.p.h. on rds. Has 6 bogie wheels.

Mk III : One 50 mm Gun. 2 SPANDAU MGs. 28 m.p.h. on rds.
Has 6 bogie wheels.

Mk IV. : One 75 mm gun. 2 SPANDAU MGs. 28 m.p.h. on rds.
Has 8 bogie wheels.

R

Reports should always state types of tks where possible, or, at least, whether light (Mk I or II) or medium (Mk III or IV). It is also possible that ITALIAN ML3 or CV33 tks may be seen.

9. METEOROLOGICAL.

Local times 7 Sep -

SUN rises	0702 hrs	Sets	1942 hrs
MOON "	2011 hrs	"	0826 hrs

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IO. 2/23 Bn

7 AYT/ Sep 41.

2/23 AUST INF BN INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 73.

Compiled from infn received up to 1400 hrs 7 Sep 41.

Ref Maps RAS EL MEDAUUAR SALIENT 1/20,000, TOBRUK 1/50,000
SOLLUM TOBRUK 1/250,000.

1. GENERAL.

(a) Bn Sector. Casualties were inflicted on the enemy by our Mortar fire and a MG post blew up when engaged with Boys rifle fire. Enemy Arty fire was normal but caused 3 casualties to a Sub unit in our area. We made no contacts with the enemy who is heard blasting each night to provide more cover against our aggressive tactics. The situation is normal.

(b) TOBRUK AREA. Between 1135 & 1815 hrs 6 Sep the Harbour was shelled intermittently destroying 1 MT but otherwise no damage or casualties. Bombs were dropped at 1745 hrs S.W. of Harbour - no damage. This morning there were six bombing attacks by several formations which dropped a total of 72 bombs on NORTH POINT and SOUTH of the Harbour. 5 ORs were killed and small quantity of 3/7 AA amn destroyed. One plane is reported to have crashed into the sea. No close contacts made with the enemy-fighting patrols in the S^E were forced to withdraw by Hy MG fire.

(c) Other areas. Enemy traffic in the Frontier area between SOLLUM and HALFAYU has been below normal.

Oasis and Desert sectors report all quiet.

MATRUH was bombed by three enemy aircraft, but no damage or casualties resulted.

Utilising cloud cover on 4 Sep, two Hurricanes carried out a successful ground strafing attack on a GERMAN camp on TRIGH CAPUZZO. Tents and a lorry were left blazing. The enemy dumps NORTH of GAMEUT were again attacked by a formation of medium bombers. On night 4/5 Sep, our bombers attacked enemy aerodromes at TMIMI, scoring direct hits on six JU87s and damaging a number of others by MG fire.

During the same night, a large flight of bombers made a successful attack of the enemy barracks and MT depot at BARCE. Fires were started. Fighters made numerous sweeps during the daylight hours of 5 Sep, but contact was NOT made with the enemy.

2. OUR GROUND ACTIVITY.

(a) Patrols: No recces were made but LPs and SPs were/blastng in out along the entire front. NMS but enemys lines was heard in most sectors.

(b) Other Activities. At 1615 hrs C Coy knocked out an enemy MMG near S7 with a direct hit from a Boys rifle. An explosion was caused, probably amn or grenades and it is thought at least one casualty inflicted. At 1835 hrs the Mortar detachment on left flank, using British 3" 10lb bombs engaged area 39954299 with 12 rds. All fell in the target area completely demolishing 3 sangars and damaging sand bagged posns. A few minutes later enemy stretcher bearers arrived under Red Cross flag and our fire withheld whilst 2 walking wounded were assisted away. At 1855 hrs an Amb was seen to approach but failing to recognise it as such our arty put 6 rds down in the vicinity. Fortunately, identification was then made and fire withheld. A third casualty was carried away on a stretcher.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

Daylight observation revealed numerous enemy in ones and twos on the slopes of MEDDAUUAR but no significant movement was seen. By night the enemy seems to be concentrating on extending or improving his defensive posns for which it is necessary to resort to blasting.

4. SHELLING

Shelling showed no alteration and was almost down to normal.

6 Coy	39 shells	44 mortars
A "	46 "	9 "
B "	- "	- "
D "	- "	- "

4. SHELLING (Contd)

Dummy OP Pole 5 shells .
Making a total of 188 for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs.

5. ENEMY HABITS

Night observation reveals that the enemy uses some Donkey's and wheelbarrows when repairing damaged defences on which work he commences about 2100 hrs and continues throughout the "quiet" ration period.

6. METEOROLOGICAL - local times - 8 Sep.

Sun rises	0703 hrs	Sets	1941 hrs.
Moon "	2120 hrs	Sets	1015 hrs.

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I.O. 2/23 Aust Inf Bn. Lieut

CO. B6
2 1/2
ADJ. 9/11/41

SECRET

8 Sep 41.

2/23 AUST INF BN INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY, NO 74.

Compiled from infn received up to 1400 hrs 8 Sep.

Ref Maps: RAS EL MEDAUAN SALIENT 1/20,000. TOBRUK 1/30,000
TOBRUK - SOLLUM 1/250,000.

1. GENERAL.

(a) En Sector. Enemy shelling has shown a sharp increase but caused neither casualty nor damage. His fwd posns continued to show reluctance to engage with our tps revealing our complete dominance of fire. This was NOT the case when we took over the sector and has been gained by sheer determination reflecting great credit on the men. We severely harassed three enemy areas causing observed damage and undoubtedly inflicting casualties. No contacts were made and the situation is normal.

(b) TOBRUK area. The enemy's long range guns shelled the Harbour at 1740 hrs, but damage was negligible. Single JU88's dropped bombs but no damage reported. There was considerable movement of tpt planes over El ADEM yesterday. The ground situation is quiet.

(c) Other Areas. There has been slight shelling by both sides in the Coastal area. At 1215 hrs, seven ME 109s made a ground-strafting attack at BARCHUT, but no damage or casualties resulted. One of our mobile cols carried out a shoot on two by and eight light armd Cars and five MT in the SCHERZEN area. Tac R 1000 hrs reveals NMS SCHERZEN area and fifteen miles WEST to TRICH el ABD, SIDI OMAR 25 tanks, fifteen MT and two armd Cars, area 505355 ten armd cars, SIDI SULEIMAN area twelve armd cars.

2. OUR GROUND ACTIVITY.

At 1940 hrs the Mortar detachment on left flank engaged an enemy posn at 39924303 with 12 rds, effectively covering the target and demolishing 1 sangar. When C Coy engaged a sniper near 57 the enemy put down Mortar fire to cover his withdrawal. At 0230 hrs "X2" area in vicinity 39734311 was harassed by C Coy then 1 RNF MG Bn, and finally with 3 tps of Guns. At 0300 hrs 22 area vicinity 39844023 was harassed intensely by B Coy then the 4th Bn followed by 3 tps of guns, concluding with 30 10 lb Mortar Bombs. It has been learnt that, following our harassing of X area on night 5/6 Sep, enemy were heard screaming and calling out. Vchs were later heard to operate in the area suggesting the removal of casualties.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

Only isolated movement observed and sounds of field work fwd of B Coy last night. No patrols were located.

4. SHELLING.

Shelling was much heavier - especially on right Coy area. A total of 427 shells fell as compared with 188 for previous 24 hrs.

C Coy	198 shells	192 Mortars
A Coy	20 shells	--
B Coy	41 "	--
D Coy	Nil "	--

5. OWN EQUIPMENT - A/TK.

'Tin Hat' A/TK Bombs - These bombs resemble tin hats in shape and are so constructed that they will adhere very strongly to any steel or iron surface. They are meant to be fired either by a short time delay pencil, time fuse or percussion igniter.

An experiment was carried out with one, on an ITALIAN M11 tank. Upon detonation, the mine blew a 15" diameter hole in the turret and shearing through all turret - to - tank connections, blew the turret bodily some ten yards from the tank.

6. METEOROLOGICAL. Local times 0 Sep

6. Meteorological (Contd).

Sun rises	0704 hrs	Sets	1939 hrs.
Moon "	2154 "	"	1107 hrs.

Amstrong

I.O. 2/23 Aust Inf Bn. Lieut

ADDENDUM - Para 1.

TOBRUK area. During last nights air raids 36 bombs were dropped in the Town area, only causing slight damage. Two raids this morning caused neither damage or casualties. Shelling is normal except for R 10 which enemy harassed presumably in answer to our tactics. Between 0600 and 0730 hrs an enemy recon party of 12 light tanks and 50 infantry approached to within 1000/2000 X of the perimeter in the EL ADEM Sector. At 1015 hrs an extremely large convoy 6000X long was observed moving WEST. No contacts with enemy reported but 1 patrol in WEST Sector forced to withdraw under heavy fire. The ground situation generally is unchanged.

2/23 AUST INF BN INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY N O 75.

C.O.
2/c
Adj.
File

Compiled from infn received up to 1400 hrs 9 Sep 41.

Ref Maps. RAS EL MEDAUUAR SALIENT 1/20,000 TOBRUK 1/50,000.
SOLLUM - TOBRUK 1/250,000.

1. GENERAL.

(a) Bn Sector. There was a still further increase in enemy shelling which was the heaviest since the Bn came into this Sector. No contacts were made but a harassing fire was concentrated on an enemy post last night. Our Mortars were active during the afternoon. The situation is normal.

(b) TOBRUK Area. A HL attack by 1 JU88 at 1755 hrs did no material damage but 200 galls of water were lost. A photo taken 7 Sep reveals 58 camouflaged vehs (with turrets) 5 miles SW of ACROMA. They may be AFVs but foot tracks in front of the vehs and no signs of "Caterpillar tracks suggests they are Armd Cars or "dummies". No contacts have been reported and the ground situation is normal.

(c) Other Areas. Apart from an unsuccessful attack by a party of our carriers on an enemy patrol at ALAM KIDAD (534368), there is nothing to report from the Frontier area.

Three enemy planes bombed MATRUH during night 6/7 Sep, causing about 13 casualties and damaging an engine and railway installations.

ME109s ground-strafted the ry stn and LG both morning and evening.

Tac R 1000 hrs 7 Sep reveals - twelve MT BIR NUH, thirty MT possibly AFVs at SIDI SULEIMAN, thirty AFVs SE SCHEFERZEN.

2. OUR GROUND ACTIVITY.

(a) Patrols. Standing patrols and Listening posts reported NMS.

(b) Other activities. Our Mortars successfully engaged 2 areas fwd of B Coy yesterday afternoon when direct hits were scored on several sangars causing considerable damage. Enemy in area 39834307 was harassed by A Coy, 1 RNF, 3 tps guns and Mortar detachment at 2330 hrs.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

Again there was very little observed movement. At 1740 hrs enemy shells and Mortar Bombs were seen to fall in his own lines indicating that he is certainly not aware of our exact locations and in some doubt regarding his own fwd posts. It may indicate a relief of an Arty Regt, the shells (of which some of the "overs" fell in our lines) were Italian 105 mm.

4. SHELLING.

Was the heaviest yet recorded since we came into the Sector, 533 shells and Mortar Bombs compared with 427 for the previous 24 hrs (to 0500 hrs)

C Coy	306 shells	143	Mortar bombs.
A "	13	4	" "
B "	13	29	" "
D "	-	-	
BHQ	25	-	

No damage or casualties reported. In 18 days occupation a total of 5096 shells and Mortar Bombs have fallen in the Bn sector in the following areas:-

Right Coy area	2615 Shells and Mortar Bombs.
Centre Coy area	369 Shells and Mortar Bombs.
Left Coy area	1382 Shells and Mortar Bombs.
Reserve Coy area	389 Shells and Mortar Bombs.
Other areas	288 Shells and Mortar Bombs.
BHQ	52 Shells and Mortar Bombs.

5. METEOROLOGICAL. Local times - 10 Sep 41.

Sun rises 0705 hrs Sets 1938 hrs
Moon " 2233 hrs Sets 1200 hrs
Last quarter 13 Sep. New moon 21 Sep.

Amey
Lieut.,
I.O. 2/23 Bn.

C.O. -
21/c
Adjst - -
File - -

SECRET

10 Sep 41.

2/23 AUST INF BN INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No 76.

Compiled from infn received up to 1400 hrs 10 Sep.

Ref Maps RAS EL MEDAUAR SALIENT 1/20,000. TOBRUK 1/50,000.
TOBRUK - SOLLUM 1/250,000.

1. GENERA L.

(a) Bn Sector. Enemy shelling has shown little change and no casualties or damage resulted. No contacts were made with the enemy and the situation remained quiet throughout the day.

(b) TOBRUK area. At about 2000 hrs, the enemy brought down by arty and MG fire on to our outpost sangar at 39914382 and shortly afterwards, a small enemy patrol approached. This was driven off with LMG fire and the use of grenades. A fighting patrol was sent out from the perimeter, but it was unable to overtake the enemy who had by this time withdrawn. Enemy casualties cannot be estimated. We suffered two killed and two wounded, as a result of the arty fire. Tac R 0930 hrs 9 Sep observed continuous convoy of low density stretching from MIMI to AGRONA and moving WEST.

(c) Other Areas. The situation remains subdued at the Frontier. MT movement in the HALPAYU and SOLLUM areas has remained normal, but MT activity of an unusual nature was observed between CAPUZZO and SCHEFFERZEN during the afternoon. An arm'd car was engaged by our arty at 585283, whilst at Pt 14 (532639) enemy arty was forced to withdraw by our intense CB fire. MATRUH was subjected to attacks by nine enemy planes night 7/8 Sep and 78 bombs were dropped. There was no damage caused and no casualties. It is reported that we lost nine fighters as the result of enemy's machine gunning of the railway. Tac R over the Frontier area 1700 hrs 8 Sep revealed that MARSA RAMLA was deserted. This means a reduction of 400 MT incl 30/40 tanks in this area since 29 Aug. MARSA ELBUH is unchanged - 200 MT, and at 482410, one hundred MT were seen. Photo recce 0920 hrs 8 Sep, reveals that the 70 APVs as reported by the photo recce 7 Sep at 477424 have moved.

2. OUR GROUND ACTIVITY.

Owing to the relief of the Bn which was carried out by the 24 Aust Inf Bn night 9/10 Sep no patrols were carried out. The changeover was completed without incident, with the exception of a minor injury to one of A Coy's personnel and was the result of "G" fire. All Coy's reported occupation of their positions on the BLUE LINE by 0420 hrs.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

Little movement was reported from our OP's throughout the day, when the enemy remained very subdued.

4. OUR AIR ACTIVITY.

Our medium bombers attacked the LG at CAPUZZO yesterday. One large aircraft was burned out and the petrol store set on fire. Our recce aircraft were active. Fighter patrols were carried out over shipping and fwd areas. The enemy aerodrome at DERNA was bombed on the night 7/8 Sep.

5. ENEMY ARTY.

(a) Photographs of TOBRUK area reveal the following by and lt AA arty disposns:- Two AA guns and two hy guns at 42964248; four hy guns at 43004204.

(b) Enemy btys active during week Sep 1 - 8 are as follows-
Western Sector Five fd btys, nine medium btys
one hy bty, six unknown.

6. ENEMY MORALE.

Letters recently captured show a state of mind in ITALY, in which complete boredom with the war is intermingled with doubts as to the result.

A corporal in ITALY looks forward to seeing his friend again:

"Hope you return soon to live over those wonderful days when we were young together. But those days won't be the same as they were once, for then, we were two upstanding young men, and returned, what's more, victorious from the war we'd fought so energetically and we were celebrating our greatest victory".

and another.....

"Let's pray our potent Lord that he'll also make this frightful nuisance finish soon, so that you (her brother at the front), will be happier".

whilst a religious-minded Mother comes out with.....

"May God soon concede a just peace, such as ITALY deserves".

7. ENEMY PROPAGANDA.

An interesting extract from an ITALIAN Army paper dated 28 Aug regarding our local shipping losses is repeated:-

"Recco over the port of TOBRUK has made certain that a 2,000 ton ship (the bombardment of which was announced in our earlier bulletin), has been hit with one or two bombs in the region of the bridge and is very probably resting on the bottom of the harbour". (The above has all the hallmarks of a typical Baron Munchausen story.)

8. METEOROLOGICAL. 11 Sep 41.

Sun rises 0705 hrs Sets 1937 hrs.
Moon rises 2233 hrs Sets 1200 hrs 10/11 Sep.

A. M. Key

I.O. 2-23 Aust Inf Bn.

Lieut

C.O. AB
2I/c.
Adj't.
I Sec.

SECRET

2/23 Aust Inf Bn Intelligence Summary No 77

(Compiled from information received up to 1400 hrs 18 Sep 41)

Ref Maps : RAS EL MEDUAAR - 1/10,000. TOBRUK - 1/50,000.
TOBRUK - SOLLUM - 1/250,000.

1. GENERAL

- (a) Bn Sector - By 0022 hrs the Bn had completed relieving the 2/48 Aust Inf Bn - the operation was carried out quietly and without incident. Enemy activity has been confined to some MG fire and a few mortar bombs.
- (b) TOBRUK area - Shelling on all sectors has been light. There were no air raids during the night but at 0813 and 0823 hrs a single JU88 dropped bombs WEST of the Harbour and near the ITALIA N AA site. There were no contacts made with the enemy and the situation generally is quiet.

2. OUR GROUND ACTIVITY

IP's and SP's were fwd of all Coy areas. No engagements reported.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

At dusk last ~~NIGHT~~ evening D Coy of 2/48 Aust Inf Bn observed 2 tks moving along ACROMA rd in the distance, and at 2030 hrs tracked vehs were heard moving fwd of HILL 209 and later in rear of the same feature. At 0015 hrs D Coy saw about 5 enemy in the dim distance fwd of DL. They were only seen for a second and gave the impression of moving from left to right.

4. SHELLING

To 0500 hrs. 49 shells and 32 mortar bombs as compared with the daily average of 65 and 18.

	D Coy	Nil shells	Nil mortars
C	"	6	"
B	"	34	32
A	"	6	Nil
BHQ		3	"

5. METEOROLOGICAL

Local time - 19 Sep 41.

Sun rises 0610 hrs Sets 1826 hrs

Moon rises 0407 hrs Sets 1719 hrs

New Moon - 21 Sep

First Quarter - 27 Sep

Amckey
Lieut
IO 2/23 Aust Inf Bn

DISTRIBUTION

- A Coy
- B "
- C "
- D "
- HQ "
- 2/24 Aust Inf Bn
- 2 Polish Inf Bn
- 26 Aust Inf Bde
- CO
- WD

(Compiled from infn received up to 1400 hrs 19 Sep 41)

Ref Maps : EAS EL MEDUAAR 1/100,000. TOBRUK 1/50,000.
TOBRUK-SOLLUM 1/250,000.

1. GENERAL

- (a) Bn Sector - Throughout the day 18 Sep, dust prevented observation of enemy movement. Shelling of our FDLs was negligible, and the situ generally is quiet.
- (b) TOBRUK area - Enemy air activity is still much below average, only ~~three~~ three HL attacks by single enemy aircraft having been made in the past 24 hrs. There was a slight increase in enemy shelling in the WEST on 16 Sep, but the EAST showed a decrease to normal. Night 16/17 Sep was extremely quiet on all fronts, but at about 0830 hrs a heavy concentration of fire (300 rds) was put down on the EAST FDLs. A patrol in the SIDI DAUD Sector engaged an enemy working party in the vicinity of 425419, but results are unknown. A patrol of one offr and 16 ORs from the 2/28 Bn carried out a recce of the area of our OPs in the SE and the enemy OP at Pt 146. (425419). At 42334195 they found a small basin containing thick shrubs but showing no signs of occupation. At 42344195, markings on the ground like fresh Spit-locking. A 40-gal drum marks the junc of the two legs of the design. An enemy working party was heard on the SOUTH side of Pt 146 covering an approximate area of 150/200 yds in a NE -SW direction. The patrol engaged the enemy posn with SA fire. Fire was not returned by the enemy. Air raid 0815 hrs yesterday resulted in damage to quantity of foodstuffs including 10,000 lbs of sausages.
- (c) Other Areas - There is no activity to report from the Frontier area. Tac R 1130 hrs 17 Sep reveals 400 MT and tks at MARSA LUCCH, 300 MT dispersed either side main rd in sqs 4840 and 4941. The following is a preliminary estimate of casualties and losses suffered by the enemy during recent operations in the WESTERN DESERT 14/15 Sep:-

Casualties - enemy -

Killed	20
Wounded	50
Missing or PW	28 incl 16 ITALIAN airmen.

Losses -

Ten tks
Fifteen MT } confirmed destroyed.

Eight JU 87s, two fighters, one S 79.

The oil storage tanker in BENGHASI harbour which was hit by our hy bombers on the night 15/16 Sep was observed to be still burning yesterday afternoon (17 Sep). Hy bombers carried out a further raid on the harbour on the night 16/17 Sep. The enemy dumps at BARDIA were attacked by our medium bombers yesterday and four large fires were started. Three pilots who were reported missing from our large scale attacks on the enemy on 14 Sep have now been recovered. Fighters provided protection for shipping.

2. OUR GROUND ACTIVITY

Two observation posts were established in the Bn area. "CORK" map ref 401442-4 and "LEO" at post R 10. Dust prevented good observation for the greater part of yesterday. LPs and SPs reported NMS and no contact was made with the enemy. At 1815 hrs 8 enemy at R 7 were engaged by our arty and at 1845 hrs by our post R 8. At 1730 hrs D Coy centre pl fwd sec using 2 MG and snipers rifle fired on 12 enemy approx 400/500x behind enemy wire. One enemy was seen to fall and another going to his aid also appeared to be hit, the remainder dispersed.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

At 0736 hrs yesterday 8 enemy were seen at 40074240 walking EAST, at 40114241, this party was again observed in diggings and sangars, some shaking blankets, indicating an ~~MMM~~ occupied post. 2 enemy at 40094241 were met by runner and party moved SOUTH 200x. A pl HQ may be in this vicinity.

4. ENEMY DISPOSNS

An enemy mortar has been located at approx 39994295 and MG posns at 40004295 and 40014294.

5. SHELLING

To 0500 hrs. D Coy - 15 mortar bombs is the only report received. There must be some reason behind this "silence" period on the part of the enemy arty, which is reported on most FDLs within the fortress area. ~~XXXX~~ His supplies, which seemingly permitted an unlimited expenditure in the past, cannot have become exhausted all of a sudden. It would therefore, appear logic to associate this inactivity with some planned operations pending by the enemy.

6. ENEMY EQPT

Tanks -

A captured GERMAN order issued by the Supreme Army Command on 23 Apr 41 directs that boxes described as "baggage and track tool boxes" be fitted to tks Mk II, III and IV. Mk IV tks have been seen with an attachment at the back of the turret which may be this box, and it is expected that similar attachments will be seen on Mk II and Mk III tks. (WDF Int Summary 199).

7. ENEMY MORALE

It is now confirmed that the inf and the arty of the BOLOGNA Div, with the exception of some senior officers, come from NAPLES and the immediately-surrounding provinces.

The Neapolitans are not interested in soldiering. Although admired for their songs, they are despised in ITALY as soldiers both by the Northern ITALIANS and by the Sicilians. They have broken and run almost regularly in every battle in which they have participated since the 17th Century, with one glorious interlude when a cavalry Brigade got to Moscow - and back - in 1812.

They ran in 1799 before the French, in 1815 and 1821 before the Austrians, and finally lost the Bourbons the kingdom and NAPLES its independence when their entire army dispersed before Garibaldi's few thousand troops at VOLTURNO in 1861.

Murat, a Marshal of Napoleon's who was King of NAPLES from 1807 to 1815, tried to refurbish the Neapolitan Army in appearance, drill and morale.

"You can dress the Neapolitans up in what you like", Napoleon is once reported to have said, "but they'll run away just the same."

A. J. Kelly Lieut
IO 2/23 Aust Inf Bn
per K.B.

(Compiled from infn ~~XXXXXXXX~~ received up to 1420 hrs 20 Sep)
Ref Maps TOBRUK 1:50,000.

1. GENERAL

- (a) Bn Sector - Enemy shelling has again been very slight. What appeared to be 6 pls of enemy assembling is now thought to have been working parties. No contacts were made and the situ is normal.
- (b) TOBRUK - No contacts reported and the situ is very quiet. There were no bombing raids 19 Sep and shelling was slight.
- (c) Other areas - There is very little to report from the Frontier area. One S 79 made a recce of GIARABUB area at 0857 hrs 18 Sep and at 1400 hrs, twenty two enemy aircraft were over Fort MADDALENA. At 1400 hrs, a number of G 50's machine-gunned one of our mobile cols, but neither casualties nor damage resulted. The ground situ is unchanged.

OUR

2. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

- (a) Patrols - D Coy recce 1 offr and 3 ORs from DL patrolled 150x fwd of wire along pl front from 2355 to 0200 hrs - NMS. SPs and LPs - NMS.
C Coy had 3 SPs fwd - NMS.
B Coy LP suspected movement 10 yds fwd of wire at R9 but a recce of 1 offr 3 ORs investigating reported NMS. Sounds of blasting at 0300 hrs vicinity R7 were followed by digging in that area. 3 MT ~~XXXX~~ were moving near R5 at 2045 hrs apparently under the directions of 1 man who could be heard giving orders in a loud voice. SP from R9 to 40034266 from 1940 to 0500 hrs - NMS.
- (b) Other Activities - The enemy's fire has been returned with vigour on every occasion. At 1847 hrs 5/6 pls of enemy assembled at foot of escarpment (39924250 to 40054246) but were out of range to the 4.5 Hows in Support. When fire from a neighbouring unit was put down, the failing light prevented observation. What is thought to be the same parties returning at 0600 hrs were brought under our fire and as the numbers were approximately the same it is now considered they were working parties.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

Fwd of D and C Coys there was no observed movement. SOUTH from B Coy, along escarpment, consistent movement of enemy in small gps indicates many occupied posns. At 1847 hrs 6 pls were assembled 39924250 to 40054246 and at 1915 hrs had moved 500x towards our lines. At 1918 hrs a small party in extended line had moved 200x closer. At 0600 hrs a similar number of men moved back to the escarpment.

4. SHELLING

To 0500 hrs.

D Coy	25 shells	-	Mortars
C "	"	48	"
B "	3 "	22	"
Other Areas	7 "	9	"
Total	35 shells	79	Mortars

5. LOCAL CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

During the last two days, the prevailing high wind has veered around from the NW to the EAST. This is normal, as the month of September is usually marked by very unsettled weather conditions, particularly as far as the wind is concerned. The general tendency is to blow from the NORTH to NE. Temperature range on the Coast is from about 94 to 63 degs Fahrenheit. The months of October and November constitute the transitional period back to winter conditions. Depressions become more frequent and there are more strong winds. By the end of November, winter conditions are fully established. The temperature ranges from about 90 to 50 degs Fahrenheit in October and from about 80 to 45 degs Ft in November. (Based on MILITARY REPORT ON LIBYA 1936).

6. AIR ACTIVITY.

Daylight raids carried out by our med bombers on enemy dumps and an MT concentration at BA RDIA yesterday. Many fires were started in the dumps. A number of recce flights were made during the day. Our fighters provided protective patrols over shipping. Flying through heavy cloud and rain, a small force of our heavy bombers attacked BENGHASI on night 17/18 Sep. The result could not be observed owing to the bad weather conditions over the target.

7. METEOROLOGICAL.

Sunrise	0711 hrs	Sunset	1923 hrs	21 Sep
Moonrise	0715 hrs	Moonset	1940 hrs	21 "

A. D. McKay
per RB

IO 2/2 3Aust Inf Bn Lieut

(Compiled from infn received up to 1400 hrs 21 Sep 41)
 Ref Maps : TOBRUK 1/50,000. SOLLUM TOBRUK 1/250,000.

1. GENERAL SITU

- (a) Bn Sector - There has been increased shelling and mortar activity. MG fire has also increased at night. We inflicted a number of casualties and caused damage to defensive works. The situ is normal and no close contacts were made.
- (b) TOBRUK area - Shelling has been above normal in the WEST. There were no air raids. A successful MG shoot was carried out on enemy posns. Ground situ normal - no contacts reported.

2. OUR GROUND ACTIVITY

- (a) Patrols - D & C Coys LPs along Coy fronts report NMS. B Coy SP 300x fwd of R 9 heard sounds of digging at foot of escarpment approx 399425 where enemy have been observed at last and first light. LPs reported blashing and digging to the WEST, probably near R7 where works are in progress. An MT was heard near "209".
- (b) Mortars - Several highly successful bombardments of enemy posns fwd of D Coy inflicted at least 5 casualties and caused considerable damage to breastworks and sangars. At 39974300, direct hits were scored on a post and 4 casualties observed. At 39974299 direct hits on an MG post resulted in one definite observed casualty and almost certainly destroyed the gun. More direct hits on diggings occupied by at least 7 men, at 39924292 are likely to have inflicted further loss on the enemy, but casualties could not be observed. The general area around 40084293 was searched with 18 rds and damage caused.
- (c) Other Activities - Enemy MG posns were engaged vigorously by our fwd tps and, although some duels lasted up to 2 hrs, the enemy was in every case compelled to cease fire first.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

No patrols were seen or heard. Some movement was seen on the right and on the left a considerable number of enemy in small gps were visible along the escarpment during daylight, especially from 39904245 WEST to the rd. Occasionally several men are seen at R 7 but in the centre sector the enemy remains under ground during daylight and only ~~one~~ 1 man was seen near 209.

4. SHELLING

175 shells and mortars as compared with 114 yesterday, and an average of 92 over 4 days. This increase is slightly above normal for the Sector. Areas shelled as follows :-

D Coy	9 shells	2 mortars	
C "	24 "	78 "	
B "	30 "	32 "	(Some damage to sandbagging.)

5. FIELD WORKS

Deepening of CTs and improvements to weapon pits and breastworks is being carried out by the three fwd Coys.

6. ENEMY DISPOSNS

Strong posts at 39964301 - 40004293, 39924277, MMGs at 40004286 - 40014287.

A. D. McKean
 IO 2/23 Aust Inf Bn

Lieut

2/23 Aust Inf Bn Int Summary No. 61.
 (Compiled from info received up to 1400 hrs 22 Sep 41.)

CO. 2/23
 2/23
 Ref. Map 1/50,000 TOBRUK SOLLUM 1/25,000.
 from where
 GENERAL SITU.

Ref Maps TOBRUK 1/50,000 TOBRUK SOLLUM 1/25,000.
 from where
 GENERAL SITU.

- (a) En Sector. Enemy Mortars & MGs continue to be active but not intense - shelling was lighter. We caused further heavy damage with our Mortars but made no close contacts. The situ is normal.
- (b) TOBRUK Area. Again there were no bombing raids during the day - air attacks have shown an appreciable decline during recent days. A TAC R at 1400 hrs 21 Sep reveals 50 large MT (with diggings between) at ACROMA whilst along the TOBRUK-GAZALA rd were 4 gps each of 5/6 APVs stationary. No contacts are reported & the ground situ is quiet.
- (c) Other Areas. Movement of enemy MT has been above normal in the HALPAYU area but has been below normal in other sectors. TAC R 1100 hrs reveals:-

80 MT NORTH of SOLLUM
 30 MT NW SIDI OMAR
 NMS BIR NAIR - CAPUZZO SIDI OMAR SCHEFERZEN -
 SIDI SULEIMAN.

2. OUR GROUND ACTIVITY.

- (a) Patrols. D Coy had 3 SPs out and LPs fwd. Blasting was heard to the SW but NMS. C Coy had 3 SPs out and LPs fwd - NMS. B Coy had 1 SP out and LPs reporting NMS but blasting and digging were heard at 40014279.
- (b) Mortars. Enemy posns fwd of D Coy were successfully bombarded between 1515 and 1615 hrs. Direct hits on 2 large sangars (ref 39924292) caused considerable damage and was thought to have been hit when a large burst of smoke arose. A direct hit was registered on a MG post (ref 39924295) where timber etc blown into the air. Bombs were also dropped into diggings at 39934299 from where a sniper usually operates.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

Continuous observation revealed less movement than usual. Enemy were again moving freely on the escarpment to the SOUTH but the working parties which moved NORTH from the t feature on previous evenings were not seen. A working party blasting and digging at 40014279 during the night made no attempt to conceal their presence or minimise noise. No patrols were seen or heard.

4. SHELLING.

142 Shells & Mortar bombs compared with 175 for previous 24 hrs is above normal. No casualties or damages were sustained.

D Coy	Nil Shells	35 Mortars
C "	28 "	67 "
B "	Nil "	8 "
A "	4 "	Nil "

5. FIELD WORKS.

Deepening of crawl trenches, improvements to fire - bays and some bomb proofing has been effected.

6. OWN AIR ACTIVITY.

Nil.

7. METEOROLOGICAL - local times 23 Sep.

SUN rises 0613 hrs sets 1820 hrs
 MOON " 0828 " " 2006 "
 Last Quarter - 27 Sep.

A. C. Kelly
 Lieut
 10 2/23 Aust Inf Bn
 15/9

2/23 Aust Inf Bn Int Summary No 82.
 (Compiled from infn received up to 1400 hrs 23 Sep) C.O.

Ref maps: Left Salient TOBRUCH 1/20,000. TOBRUCH 1/50,000,
 SOLLUM-TOBRUCH 1/25,000.

2 1/2

38
 24/9
 24/9

1. GENERAL SITU.

- (a) Bn Sector. Enemy shelling has been extremely light. There were no contacts and the situ is quiet.
- (b) TOBRUCH Area. There have been bombing raids - 3 ME 109s were engaged at extreme range out to sea. No contacts are reported & the ground situ remains quiet.
- (c) Other Areas. Patrols of enemy AFVs have been active in the Frontier area around BIR NUH, SIDI SULEIMAN, KINEIBISH and SCHEFERZEN. Enemy arty in the last two areas shelled our armd cars during 21 SEP. Several heavily-armed Arabs travelling WEST in the GIARABUB area have been arrested.

2. OUR GROUND ACTIVITY.

- (a) Patrols. D Coy LP suspected movement fwd of wire last night but a recce patrol immediately out and later reported NMS. All other D Coy LPs & SPs reported NMS. C Coy 3 SPs & LPs report NMS. B Coy SP heard digging to the SW far distant which ceased when the firing commenced at 0030 hrs. A LP fwd of R8 heard a working party & later in the light of a flare saw 10 enemy working 39974279.
- (b) An enemy sniper was seen to fall when engaged by D Coy. 1 enemy was killed when the arty were registering on area 40004293. Observation revealed further enemy dispns.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

There was the usual movement in small gps along the escarpment. Blasting was observed 200 X SOUTH of R1 & during the night an enemy working party was operating at 39974279. At 0600 hrs approx 80 enemy were seen at 39804260 area moving into diggings & sangars & were presumably working parties returning. On the whole enemy activity has been less.

4. SHELLING.

Showed a sharp decline - only 42 Mortars compared with a total of 142 shells & bombs for the previous 24 hrs. The daily average over the 6 days we have occupied the Sector is 92 comprising 30 shells & 62 mortars. B Coy 42 mortars is the only report.

5. ENEMY DISPOSNS.

Occupied diggings at 39964283 & 40034289. Close observation reveals mortar posns on "209" at 39924281 and 39954285 - there may be 2 weapons at the former posn.

6. ENEMY EQUIPMENT.

- (a) The enemy is known to be using mortar bombs of a calibre over 100 mm fitted with a delayed action fuse causing the bomb to explode some time after landing.

- (b) GERMAN Tanks. Following are the estimated performances of GERMAN tanks. They are all subject to confirmation by trial.

Tank	Trench Crossing	Step	Water Forded
Mk III	5' 7"	2'	2' 11"
Mk IV	9'	2' 3"	3' 6"

- (c) ITALIAN Bombs - (W.D.F. Summary No. 201)

"Bread baskets" are being used by the ITALIANS in attempted attacks on our fwd landing grounds. The basket, which appears to disintegrate at about 500 ft, contains approx 70 small shrapnell bombs which are scattered over a wide area. Each bomb weighs 7/8 lb and is about the size of a cocoa tin. It has a fragmentation of about 300 yds.

7. ENEMY UNIFORMS. (GHQ MEF Summary No. 477)

The following list of distinctive colours now worn by personnel of the various arms of the GERMAN mobile troops, embodies all the changes which have occurred since the beginning of the War. Earlier publications should be amended accordingly:-

accordingly:-/

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Tank Regiments | - Pink |
| A Tk Battalions | - Pink with letter "P" |
| All Reconnaissance Units | - Copper bronze |
| Cavalry Regiments | - Orange |
| Lorried Inf Regts | - Reseda Green |
| Motor Cycle Battalions | - Grass Green with letter "K". |

METEOROLOGICAL.- local times 24 Sep.

SUN rises 0613 hrs	sets 1819 hrs
MOON " 0934 "	" 2053 "
First Quarter 27 Sep	

D. W. McKay
 _____ Lieut
 IO 2/23 Aust Inf Bn
per 1/3

(Compiled from infn received up to 1400 hrs 24 Sep 41) CO. *BB*Ref Maps : WEST SALIENT TOBRUK 1/20,000. TOBRUK 1/50,000. 2 1/2
SOLLUM - TOBRUK 1/250,000. *25/9*1. GENERAL SITU

- (a) Bn Sector - Enemy shelling ~~harbour~~ negligible, but mortar fire was increased slightly. We made no close contacts, but effectively bombarded the enemy with our mortars, and harassed him throughout the night with small arms. The situ is normal.
- (b) TOBRUK area - During 23 Sep a few bombs were dropped near ARIENTE and the harbour, and probably some mines also. Bombs were dropped at PILASTRINO at 1650 hrs. 02/0400 hrs 24 Sep several raids on the town. The enemy has moved fwd in the CARMUSA area, and is occupying newly constructed sangars in squares 404421 to 405420 with strong posts at 40504213 and 40454213. 0830 hrs B Ech was bombed damaging 2 MT, destroying a small qty petrol and slightly wounding 1 NCO.
- (c) OTHER areas - Activity at the Frontier has been negligible. Enemy arty has engaged opportunity targets with negative results. Only a few enemy armd cars were reported by Tac R as being in the fwd area and at 1730 hrs, some movement of them was seen in area 520353. Tac R 1500 hrs reported less movement than usual area SIDI AZEIZ CAPUZZO HALPAYU and BIR NUH areas.

2. OUR GROUND ACTIVITY

- (a) Patrols - Sps and Lps on D & C Coy fronts NMS. B Coy reported sounds of digging vicinity R6 and a MT was heard to visit R6 & R7 at 2100 hrs. Sounds of abnormal MT movement on escarpment were also heard.
- X (b) Mortars - 1430 hrs large enemy sangar (40014286) was engaged with 14 rds scoring 2 direct hits which started a fire and blew what is thought to have been an automatic weapon up in the air. At 0600 hrs 24 Sep the same area was again bombarded when numerous bombs fell in the target area. At 0617 hrs enemy occupied diggings at 39964297 were engaged with 19 rds of which 12 fell on the target, causing damage to the breastworks etc.
- (c) Other Activities - Intense harassing tactics were continued on all fwd enemy posts during hrs of darkness. Our snipers were active and one enemy is thought to have been killed on D Coy front. During operations last night, 1 OR 2/3 Fd Coy was killed when a "Booby Trap" or A/P mine exploded. At 1900 hrs our supporting arty bombarded enemy posns at 39964248 and 40034241.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

Snipers were active over B Coy. Movement fwd of C & D Coys was very limited, but was continuous on the escarpment where small gps were observed throughout the day. At 1045 hrs 23 Sep dust SOUTH of GASR-el-CIEICHA suggested a convoy of MT, and during night 23/24 sounds of hy MT along the escarpment were heard.

4. SHELLING

To 0500 hrs. 104 Mortars and 4 shells compared with 42 mortars for previous 24 hrs.

C Coy	103	Mortars	-	Shells
B "	1	"	4	"

5. FIELD WORKS

Further sandbagging and deepening of fire bays by D Coy. Sand bagging of weapon pits and improvements to dugouts by C Coy.

6. ENEMY ARTY

The past week's arty activity shows that the enemy arty on the WEST and SOUTH remains at the same strength, but that on the EAST has increased by about five btys. This follows on the increase of four btys last week, and would appear to show that the 4th gp of the 205 Arty Regt has arrived.

Air photos show that the GERMAN 88mm AA guns which have been reported as active for some time past, are dug-in pits and in groups of four in field arty formation. The types and calibres of the new arrivals have not yet been discovered.

The area of WADI TBEREGH has been shelled recently from the WEST. This bty has now been located and is identified as an ITALIAN 149/35 gun.

The following 4-gun btys are noted as being active :-

WESTERN SECTOR. Five field, eleven medium, one heavy and five unknown.

SOUTHERN SECTOR Six field, six medium, one heavy, and three unknown.

EASTERN SECTOR Fifteen field, one medium, one heavy, four AA (4-gun btys used as Fd Arty), and six unknown.

7. ENEMY ANTI HARBOUR SHELLING

The harbour has not been shelled since our combined bombing and shelling attack on 15 Sep. One gun has since fired from the EASTERN area bty has been reported as being a very different type to the 155 mm guns which were there before. It may have been put there to draw our fire and disclose the dispositions of our tps.

The 155 mm guns have not been noted as firing from any other posn, but the GERMAN 105 mm gun bty which was also up on the coast, has been located by the BARDIA rd, and fired a very accurate CB shoot on to our 60-pr tp.

8. OWN METHODS

SA fire against Aircraft.

As illustrating the effect of SA fire against ground-strafting aircraft, it should be noted that recently a G 50 was shot down by ground forces near SIDI BARRANI. The pilot had died from several bullet wounds in the chest and the plane itself was riddled with holes.

9. METEOROLOGICAL

25 Sep 41 -

Sunrise	0614 hrs	Sunset	1817 hrs
Moonrise	1041 hrs	Moonsset	2143 hrs

A. H. McKay
 IO 2/23 Aust Inf Bn. Lieut
per K.B.

3" 10" Bound piece 3"

Compiled from infn received up to 1400 hrs 25 Sep 41.

Ref maps: Left Salient TOBRUCH 1/20,000; TOBRUCH 1/50,000.
SOLLUM TOBRUK 1/250,000.

1. GENERAL SITU

- (a) Bn Sector - The enemy's arty and mortar activity has been normal. SA fire less. There is no aggression in his tactics except for some sniping. Our tps dominate the front, and engage enemy movement in range. Further successful mortar bombardments were carried out on enemy posns. The situ is quiet.
- (b) TOBRUK area - The ground situ remains unchanged. Approx 40 shells fell in the harbour yesterday from enemy arty in the EAST, but no damage was caused. TAC R reveals 4 tks, 10 MT, 30 tents at EL ADEM. 30 Huts 418404. 300 MT 423406. 14 tents 442408. 10 MT ~~XXXXXX~~ and 30 tents 424409. 1300 hrs 26 Bde report Single JU 88 over 0830 hrs dropped six HE bombs NW of harbour. No damage resulted, but 7 ORs killed 12 ORs wounded. Enemy shelling of FDLs has decreased in WEST, been normal in SOUTH, and slightly increased EAST. VAKE patrols suffered some minor casual injuries from enemy MG fire but no actual contact made.
- (c) OTHER areas - Arty activity by both sides continues in the area of the Frontier. Our fwd arty shelled enemy armd car patrols in the BIR NUH and KINEIBISH areas. The enemy has engaged opportunity targets from SCHEFERZEN and there has been a slight exchange of shell fire in the Coastal area. Tac R 1030 hrs 23 Sep revealed the following enemy disposns. 30 MT at 528367, 20 MT at 525369, 30 MT and tents at 523372, 4 guns and 10 MT moving to SOLLUM from CAPUZZO, NMS at BIR WAIR. The same Tac R also reveals 30 MT at CAPUZZO, 40 MT at B P 38, 14 MT at SIDI OMAR, 6 armd cars and 9 MT at SCHEFERZEN, 2 armd cars and 20 MT BIR NUH area, and 30 MT at HALFAYU. Our hy bombers attacked BENGHASI again night 22/23 Sep and bombs were seen to fall near the Molo d'Italia. During daylight 23 Sep, our med bombers bombed with success the petrol dumps SOUTH of GAMBUT. Recce aircraft were active and fighter protection was given for shipping. During the latter, enemy planes were engaged, but as yet no details are to hand.

2. OUR GROUND ACTIVITY

- (a) Patrols - SPs and LP on D & C Coy fronts NMS. SP and LPs on B Coys sector heard enemy working parties vicinity R6 where blasting continues. A drill or concrete mixer was heard approx 39844270 and digging approx 39854253. Again at 2100 hrs an MT visited R7 and R6.
- (b) Mortars & Arty - During afternoon 24 Sep 3 enemy posns fwd of D Coy were engaged and direct hits scored on occupied diggings and sangars. At 1800 hrs 3 posns fwd of B Coy were engaged with a total of 20 bombs. An enemy Mortar posn at 3996542830 was engaged with 9 bombs but the range was extreme and only 1 fell in the area. Another Mortar post at 39994284 was engaged with 5 bombs of which fell on the target. Enemy sec post at 3999548840 received 3 bombs in the target area 1 of which fell in the trench. A fwd sec post reported last night that following our Mortar shoot at 0617 hrs 24 Sep, 2 enemy stretcher bearers carried a casualty away under a white flag. Arty targets have been few. A temporary break in the Arty communications prevented the engagement of several gps totalling 100 enemy moving SOUTH to the escarpment. A highly successful shoot (5 rds gunfire) by 1 RHA and 7 RHA on enemy posns SOUTH of CARMUSA at 40204235 and 200 yds to the WEST. These disposns were plotted in by observation and from aerial photographs. Numbers of enemy tps were seen to go to ground where they remained till sundown and several explosions were observed. The 14 9mm How attached to RHQ then took part, firing on a posn further SOUTH, and the "Bush Arty" fired for 3 mins on BIR EL CARMUSA. A similar shoot of 3 rds gun fire was carried out with the co-operation of the 144 Fd Regt RA and the POLISH Arty on to 40034341. Shells were seen to fall accurately on the target area. It is probable that considerable damage was caused.
- (c) Other activities - There was some sniping during daylight but our MG fire drew little response during the night.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

Although movement was very slight fwd of D & C Coys, our observers located some rear posns. Movement of small gps along the escarpment was normal. At 0550 hrs approx, 100 enemy in several gps were moving from

39804260 towards the escarpment. They have been seen on previous mornings and are apparently working parties returning to their dugouts.

4. SHELLING 101

To 0500 hrs - Shells and bombs compared with 110 for previous 24 hrs, which is normal.

D Coy	6	Mortars	-	shell
C "	60	"	-	"
B "	-	"	45	"

5. ENEMY AIR ACTIVITY

At 1845 hrs 1 large ~~XXX~~ 3 engined high wing monoplane escorted by 2 radial engined fighters flew SOUTH dipping low over MEDAUUAR and then followed the escarpment EAST.

6. FIELD WORKS

Crawl trenches deepened and work on alternative gun posns proceeded with by D Coy. Further sandbagging and improvements to dugouts effected by C Coy. Additional mortar posns prepared in all Coy areas.

7. ENEMY DISPOSNS

An arty observer reports the presence of an enemy encampment, possibly an HQ, in the area 404413. It appeared to be guarded by two large tanks and considerable MT movt was noticed in this area during the early morning. This may be the HQ area of the PAVIA Div. The wireless Station of this formation is known to be in the area about 2 Kms NORTH of el ADEM.

8. METEOROLOGICAL

Local time - 26 Sep.

Sun rises	0614 hrs	Sets	1816 hrs
Moon rises	1144 hrs	Sets	2236 hrs

A. W. McKoy
 Lieut
 IO. 2/23 Aust Inf Bn
per K.B.

FILE

SECRET

2/23 Aust Inf 4th Int Summary No 85.

(Compiled from info received up to 1400 hrs 26 Sep 41)

Map refs; Left Salient TOBRUK 1/20,000; TOBRUK 1/50,000, SOILLUM-TOBRUK 1/250,000.

1. GENERAL

- (a) Bn Sector. Shelling was lighter and the situ is quiet. The enemy shows increased reluctance to engage with SA fire which was, until recently, his principle form of activity. Our mortars were used to good effect.
- (b) TOBRUK Area. The situ is quiet. The enemy concentrated MG and mortar fire on post 297 yesterday without causing casualties. A patrol from 2 POLISH Bn from R31 were fired on by a rifleman at 40824197 followed by several LMGs at ~~40824197~~ 40474207. A LMG and TSM from our patrol took up a fwd posn engaging & silencing the opposition. Enemy then opened fire with 5 MMGs and 1 HMG at long range to which patrol replied until 3 more MMGs opened fire from their right flank compelling a withdrawal. No casualties were suffered.
- (c) Other Areas. There is nothing to report from the Frontier area. TAC N 1600 hrs revealed NMS track SIDI AZEIZ → GABR SALEH (483363), NMS TRICH el ABD SCHEFERZEN to 20 miles West of GABR SALEH, 70 MT in camp West BIR BU DEHEUA (489364).

2. OUR GROUND ACTIVITY.

- (a) Patrols. SPs & LPs on D C & B Coy fronts reported NMS, but the latter heard blasting, digging, a pneumatic drill & probable wiring in vicinity R7. Faint sounds of digging were heard approx 500 x SOUTH of R5 & occasionally voices towards the escarpment.
- (b) Mortars. Fwd of C Coy enemy sangars were engaged with 26 bombs during which 6 direct hits were scored but actual damage cannot be assessed. Two successful bombardments from B Coy Area are thought to have caused considerable damage. An enemy Sec post 39994284 was engaged with 1st bombs - of the 6 which fell in the target area 3 actually fell in the diggings. 14 bombs were directed at enemy mortar posn 39984283, 4 finding the target.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

Was very limited during hrs of daylight except on the escarpment where movement was normal. Sounds indicate continued works fwd of B Coy in the vicinity of R7 and digging could be heard in the distance approx 500 X SOUTH of R 5. There was no indication of enemy patrols.

4. SHELLING.

Only 94 shells & mortar bombs reported in the En area. C Coy 47 mortars, B Coy 7 shells & 37 mortars and 3 shells in other areas. Daily Averages: since 19 Sep.

(a) <u>Areas:</u>	D Coy	4 shells	7 mortars		
	C "	7 "	51 "		
	B "	11 "	22 "		
	All other areas	1 "	nil "		
(b) <u>Times:</u>	05/06	4 mortars	11/12	3 mortars	
	06/07	1 "	12/13	3 "	
	07/08	6 "	14/15	6 "	
	08/09	2 "	16/17	1 "	3 shells
	09/10	3 "	17/18	2 "	16 "
	10/11	6 "	18/19	1 "	4 "

5. FIELD WORKS.

Sandbagging and general improvement to sec posts in Coy areas. Loop-holing & deepening of crawl trenches. Assistance to Engr working parties.

6. AERIAL ACTIVITY.

- (a) Enemy. There has been little activity and there were no raids during the night 24/25 Sep. The only attack during the past 24 hrs was at 0830 hrs when a single JU 88 with ITALIAN markings flew in and dropped three salvoes on the North Coast in area 411437, causing casualties to personnel of a light AA Battery, five being killed & thirteen wounded. This plane was marked with the ITALIAN white cross and on its wings bore the letter "S".
- (b) Own. During night 23/24 Sep, our bombers raided the harbour at ~~KAMPANI~~ BENGHASI. A large explosion was caused when a building on the outer mole was hit. Other bombers attacked enemy dumps in Wadis at BARDIA starting two large fires.

In daylight hrs, our medium bombers attacked BARDIA and GAMBUT dumps yesterday and many direct hits were observed.

A number of recon flights were carried out during the day. Fighters provided protective patrols over shipping and carried out sweeps over fwd areas. During one engagement, a JU 88 was seen flying away with black smoke pouring from its engine.

7. ENEMY METHODS.

According to a PW, enemy strong points in the BOLOGNA Area between the BARDIA Road (Via BALBIA) and their left flank consist of strongly-wired posts, divided into a number of independent but connected posts. Posts are wired off from each other and carry rations and amm for six days.

Each strong point is designed on the shape of a diamond (aerial photos show that this shape varies slightly). In each corner of the diamond (which constitutes an independent post), there are generally two A Tk guns sighted in the apex and two LMGs in rear. The central area of the strong point is reserved for a tp of fd arty. They hold about a coy of inf and it appears that the greater part of the inf of BOLOGNA Div in this area is concentrated in them. Ground patrols and aerial photos reveal that there are no ~~strong~~ inf dispositions fwd of these points, but there are a few scattered sangars and diggings in the rear.

8. CAPTURED DOCUMENTS.

Att as Appx A to this Summary is a translation of extracts from the diary of a recently captured ITALIAN PW.

9. METEOROLOGICAL.- local times 27 Sep.

SUN	rises	0615	hrs	sets	1815	hrs
MOON	"	1244	"	"	2332	"
First Quarter 27 Sep.						

Alfred Roy

Lieut
IO 2/23 Aust Inf Bn.

(2/23 Aust Inf Bn Int Summary No 86.)
 (Compiled from infn received up to 1400 hrs 27 Sep 41)

Ref Maps: Left Salient TOBRUK 1/20,000; TOBRUK 1/50,000.

1. GENERAL.

- (a) Bn Sector. At 1803 hrs the enemy subjected B Coy area to intense MG, mortar, & arty fire for 6 mins but caused no damage or casualties. Shelling was slightly above average but the situ remains normal. We inflicted casualties on the enemy with SA fire.
- (b) TOBRUK Area. No contacts are reported & the situ generally is quiet. The enemy shelled the harbour with 32 rds but 26 failed to explode. Polish arty effectively engaged enemy working party 40/50 strong at 1840 hrs yesterday.

2. OUR GROUND ACTIVITIES.

- (a) Patrols. SPs & LP on D & C Coy fronts reported NMS while B Coy again heard working parties in the direction of R6 & R7 but NMS until 0545 hrs when 1 MT at 39954258 moved WEST.
- (b) Other activities. The enemy's harassing fire on B Coy was vigorously ~~replied~~ replied to by all fwd Coys - D Coy report 1 probable casualty inflicted. B Coy harassed the enemy this morning causing 2 casualties (1 walking 1 stretcher) which were removed by SBs who moved out under Red Cross flags. D Coy report 1 NCO killed on A/P mine last night.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

Movement on the Salient front was very limited but observation of the escarpment to the SOUTH revealed the normal amount. At 1803 hrs intense harassing fire was brought down on B Coy by MGs, mortars & arty. Altogether 115 shells & mortar bombs fell during the 6 mins but no damage or casualties were caused. It was preceded by a white flare from R7 and terminated on a white flare at 1809 hrs from the same place. Everything points to its being a planned harassing shoot. Working parties were heard during the night in vicinity of R6 & R7. At 1830 hrs 50/60 enemy approached to 39934264 & is thought to have been a relief working party.

4. SHELLING to 0500 hrs.

72 shells & 70 mortarx bombs reported - all of which fell in B Coy area. Average over past 7 days 32 shells 85 mortars.

5. METEOROLOGICAL local times 28 Sep.

SUN	rises	0615 hrs	sets	1814 hrs
MOON	"	1345 "	"	0023 " 29 SEP

A. J. McCloy
Perk B.

Lieut.

10 2 / 23 Aust Inf Bn.

2/23 Aust Inf Bn Int Summary No 87.

(Compiled from infn received up to 1400 hrs 28 Sep 41)

Ref maps:- Left Salient TOBRUK ~~1/20,000~~ 1/20,000; TOBRUK 1/50,000;
SOLLUM - TOBRUK 1/250,000.

1. GENERAL.

- (a) Bn Sector. The enemy's arty was less active and MG fire during the night restricted. Under close observation his fwd posns were severely bombarded by our mortars and supporting arty. No contacts were made and the situ is quiet.
- (b) TOBRUK Area. At 1630 hrs a JU 88 dropped 10 bombs in Wadi AUDA causing 4 casualties but no damage. 1903/1951 hrs 3 EA dropped bombs NW of the town but no damage is reported. The enemy arty in the EAST fired approx 20 rds into the harbour during 27 Sep but again many failed to explode. In the evening they shelled a vessel leaving the harbour registering near misses but causing no damage. The ground situ is unchanged.
- (c) Other Areas. 1230 hrs DEFI report 0752 hrs one JU 88 dropped bombs between AA HQ and BARDIA - DERNA Rd junction. No damage. Shelling normal in SOUTH increased EAST & WEST. Patrol VAKE contacted enemy strong post in PILASTRINO sector. Patrol penetrated wire defences and after some close fighting withdrew. Our casualties 1 killed & 2 missing. Unable to estimate number of casualties inflicted on enemy.
- (c) Other Areas The situ remains quiet at the Frontier. An armd Car patrol captured an ITALIAN Staff car containing 4 offrs who were apparently on their way to visit friends in SIDI OMAR before returning to ITALY. Tac R 0830 hrs reveals forty MT incl many derelicts at 527370; thirty MT at SOLLUM Barracks, twenty MT at 504374; eight AFVs East of Sidi SULEIMAN. Our hy bombers which attacked BENGHA SI Harbour night 24/25 scored near misses on the 'JULIANA' Mole and a large ship in the harbour. Large fires were started at the base of the CATHEDRAL Mole. Med bombers made more daylight attacks on enemy dumps in GAMBUT area during 25 Sep. Fighters have provided protection to shipping and made many sweeps over the fwd areas. Enemy aircraft were engaged on one occasion, but there were no losses to either side.

2. OUR GROUND ACTIVITY.

- (a) Patrols. D Coy SPs & LP heard blasting towards 209 but NMS. C Coy SPs & LPs reported NMS. B Coy SP & LPs saw 4 enemy working near derelict "flame thrower" 40014274 and heard working parties in the vicinity of R6.
- (b) Mortars. An enemy MG post at 39974301 was bombarded at 1830/1900 hrs scoring direct hits. Debris flew high in the air and a loud explosion followed - 3 enemy were seen to scatter as the bombs fell.
- (c) Arty. At 1708 hrs 389 Bty RA supported with very accurate fire on an enemy mortar posn 39974302 from where D Coy had been bombarded. After registration, 4 rds gunfire from the troop engaged fell right on the target causing considerable damage & neutralising the enemy weapon. A strong MG post at 39994298 was registered as a retaliation target at 1730 hrs and when fire opened at 1824 hrs our supporting arty quickly engaged the area & neutralised the enemy fire. Both shoots were observed by our fwd tps at close range.
- (d) Other Activities. Fwd weapons were used at every opportunity and quickly silenced enemy MGs throughout the night.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

At 1800 hrs D Coy was harassed by hy mortar, arty & MG fire but caused neither damage or casualties. MG fire from R7 was intermittent and mortar fire from the same direction. Movement in the Salient was negligible & more restricted than usual on the escarpment to the SOUTH. 4 men were seen last night working near the derelict "flame thrower" at 40014274 and other parties heard in vicinity R6. Blasting was heard on both flanks.

4. SHELLING.

Was lighter & below average. 22 shells & 68 mortars fell in the sector.

D Coy	22 shells	46 mortar bombs
C "	"	"
	22	"

5. FD WORKS.

Further areas cleared of mines and tapes laid. Deepening of trenches,

trenches/
sandbagging and improvements to breastworks and loopholes.

6. METEOROLOGICAL.

29 Sep - local times.

SUN	rises	0616 hrs	sets	1813 hrs
MOON	"	1430	"	0129 "
	Full Moon	5 Oct.		
	Last Quarter	13 Oct.		

A. S. McKay
per R. B.

IO 2/23 Aust Inf Bn.

Lieut

(Compiled from infn received up to 1400 hrs 29 Sep)

Ref maps:- Left Salient TOBRUK 1/20,000; TOBRUK 1/50,000;
SOLLUM-TOBRUK 1/250,000.

1. GENERAL.

- (a) Bn Sector. Enemy ground activity has been restricted on the immediate front but there were indications of considerable MT movement beyond the escarpment. At 1937 hrs several bombs were dropped in the PILASTRINO Area. We made no contacts and the situ is normal.
- (b) TOBRUK Area. There has been increased air activity. At 1903 hrs 5 EA dropped 9 bombs near a mine sweeper entering the harbour and then 3 mines - 1 on SOUTH Shore, 1 in the sea near the outer boom and 1 NOT located. A tp carrying MT convoy was moving EAST at 1630 hrs but general MT movement along EL ADEM escarpment was slight during daylight. At 1630 hrs 100 enemy within 1000 X of one of our outposts in the SIDI DAUD sector were engaged & dispersed by our arty. Early this morning the 1 CARPATHIAN REGT gave arty support to a raid on "TWIN PIMPLES" by 1 POLISH Cav Regt, firing 1700 rds in 20 mins. All our tps returned safely but no reports yet received as to casualties inflicted. 1305 hrs, DEFI reports - 1930 to 2315 hrs 11 raids by single EA. Bombs dropped Harbour Area, and near PERONNE, PWSS, EL GUBBI, and AOD. No material damage. Shelling quiet all areas during 28 Sep. Intensified WESTERN Sector at dusk and during night, as result of our patrols. Patrols EAST and SOUTH made no contact. Strong fighting patrols directed against enemy strong ~~XXXX~~ points TWIN PIMPLES, 398439, failed to reach objective, as recce party observed, and heavy DF put down. Patrol withdrew without casualties.

2. OUR GROUND ACTIVITY.

- (a) Patrols. SPs & LPs fwd of D & C Coys NMS. B Coy SP & LPs report sounds of blasting in vicinity R6 and far to the SE, also continuous MT movement which was probably using the rd WEST of MEDAUURR. A number of very lights were seen.
- (b) Other Activities. Opportunity targets were engaged by our fwd tps but these were few. Sniping by D Coy is believed to have inflicted 1 casualty on the enemy. Our supporting arty registered several targets for retaliation purposes. Our mortars in D Coy area bombarded enemy posns blowing up 2 dugouts & exploding a mine.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

During daylight there was practically no movement in the Salient. On the SOUTH escarpment numerous small gps were seen & at 0645 hrs increased movement & the gathering together of tps may have been for the breakfast ration. Snipers were active opposite D Coy. During darkness working parties were heard vicinity R6 & also to the SE of R9. 1 MT visited R6 & R7 at 2030 hrs & there was continuous veh movement beyond 209. No patrols were seen or heard.

4. SHELLING.

Was much less on our sector - only 23 shells & 17 mortars reported.

C Coy	5	shells	17	mortars
B "	15	"	—	"
D "	3	"	—	"
No damage caused.				

5. METEOROLOGICAL. 30 Sep - local times.

SUN	rises	0616 hrs	sets	1811 hrs
MOON	"	1515 "	"	0228 "
FULL MOON 5 Oct. Last Quarter 13 Oct.				

A. J. McKay
Lieut
IO 2/23 Aust Inf Bn.

per B.

ADJ
 2/23 Aust Inf Bn Int Summary No 89.
 (Compiled from infn received up to 1400 hrs 30 Sep, 41/10)

Ref maps:- Left Salient TOBRUK 1/20,000; TOBRUK 1/50,000;
 SOLLUM-TOBRUK-X 1/250,000.

1. GENERAL.

- (a) Bn Sector. The situ is quiet with shelling below normal - the enemy has been most inactive. We effected two successful mortar bombardments on enemy strong points but otherwise targets were few.
- (b) TOBRUK Area. At 1600 hrs 4 bombs were dropped in area 411438 and at 1710 hrs 10 fell in the town area causing no casualties or material damage. At 0945 hrs 29 Sep enemy arty in the EAST shelled NORTH POINT - 1 shell fell near the harbour and the remainder in the NW portion of the town.

A carrier patrol from 104 RHA with 1 inf offr went from R62 to 414416 from where 20 enemy around a camp fire in sq 419414 were engaged with 3 rds gunfire and dispersed.

- (c) Other Areas. A formation of our hy bombers attacked stores & dumps ^{amm} & harbour installations on the island of RHODES night 27/28 Sep. A large fire was seen to break out. Other hy medium bombers attacked BARDIA harbour throughout the night and widespread petrol fires were started.

Further daylight attacks were carried out on 28 Sep on the ships in BARDIA Harbour. A large number of medium bombers escorted by fighters took part in these raids.

Fighters provided protection for our shipping during the day and our recce aircraft were also active.

Two ME 109s and one G 50 were shot down during these operations and three of our planes failed to return.

2. OUR GROUND ACTIVITY.

- (a) Patrols. SPs & LPs fwd of D & C Coys report NMS. B Coy report an enemy patrol of 3 men approached the wire in front of R8 but hurriedly withdrew when engaged by LMG & rifle fire. Blasting was heard in vicinity R6 and 40014287.

- (b) Other Activities. Enemy strong post at 39954302 was engaged at 0705 hrs 29 Sep by our 81 mm mortars with 60 bombs. All our bombs fell in the target area and 3 sangars received direct hits. At 1800 hrs the same area was bombarded & 10 bombs scored direct hits on enemy works.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

Movement during morning 29 Sep was very restricted and in afternoon bad visibility prevented observation. MG fire from ~~xxx~~ fwd posns was slight and no snipers reported active. At 2130 hrs a patrol of 3 men approached our wire in front of R8 area but quickly withdrew when fired on with LMG & rifles.

4. SHELLING.

Was again below normal - 81 shells & mortars compared with the average over past 7 days of 94.

D Coy	41	shells	4	mortars
C "	10	"	16	"
B "	—	"	7	"

5. ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE.

The following units believed now to belong to 21 ARMD DIV have been identified in the CAPUZZO-MUSAID area. It is thought likely that this was the force which made the recce in strength on 14 Sep:-

HQ & both Bns 5 Tank Regt
 Two Coys 8 MG Bn
 Two Coys 200 Engr Bn
 Elements 39 A Tk Bn
 Elements 605 AA Bn
 2 Bty 155 Arty Regt
 3 Tp 1 Bty 18 AA Regt

It will be remembered that these units, with the exception of 155 Arty Regt, formed part of the 5 Light Mot DIV and were thought to be in the TOBRUK area. This may possibly indicate that the new 21 ARMD DIV, formed from the 5 Light Mot DIV, has relieved the 15 ARMD DIV at the Frontier, the latter taking its place at TOBRUK.

G. METEOROLOGICAL. 1 Oct local times.

SUN	rises	0618 hrs	sets	1811 hrs
MOON	"	1555 "	" "	0328 "
FULL MOON 5 Oct				
Last Quarter 13 Oct				

A. H. Kelly Lieut.
 10 2/23 Aust Inf Bn
pub

Diary

SECRET
COPY NO

23

1 Sep 41.

Ref Map :- TOBRUCH 1:50,000.

2/23 AUST INF BN OP INSTN NO 12

INFORMATION :

1. Enemy: Three target areas (vide trace Appx A) have been selected, one by each of our fwd coys, at co-ordinates hereunder, and for the following reasons -
 - (i) X AREA (by C Coy); 39664321-39674321 to 39654321-39664324. Strongly held by Italians and Germans, with at least four 81 mm mortars; pt 39674322 suspected HQ; night working parties heard in area.
 - (ii) Y AREA: (by A Coy); 39894308-39874308 to 39874311-39894311. Approx 25 sangers in this area, incl several MMG and LMG fixed line placements.
 - (iii) Z AREA: (by D Coy); 39894302-39874302 to 39874304-39894304. Contains several LMGs and 81 mm mortars, checked by flash bearings and observation.
2. Own Tps: B Coy has relieved D Coy as left fwd, otherwise Bn disposes as in Op Order No 10.

INTENTION :

3. Fwd coys, and supporting arms, will harrass enemy by timed fire programmes in AREAS X, Y and Z from incl 2 SEP to incl 8 SEP.

METHOD :

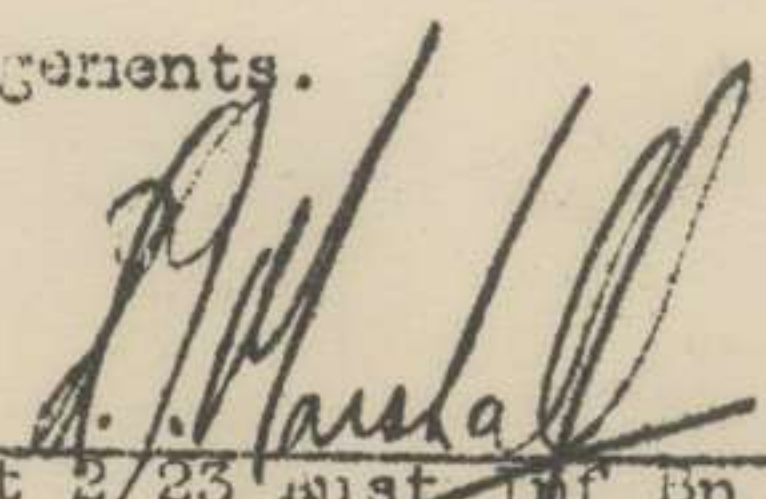
4. Tps Taking Part - C, A and B Coys of 2/23 Aust Inf Bn; 1 R.N.F.; arty Gp; Mortars of 2/23 Aust Inf Bn.
5. Recce by comds of above fire units according to own arrangements.
6. Timings - As in Fire Chart, att Appx B.

ADM :

7. Synchr Watches - Before each night's shoot, participants MUST synchronise watches with I.O. between 2000 hrs and 2100 hrs at BHQ (40114320), either by personal liaison, or by telephone.
8. Ann - (a) 2/23 Aust Inf Bn sub-units will draw additional requirements from R.S.M.
(b) Co-operating units, according own arrangements.

ACK

Issued through Sigs and signed at
1525 hrs.


Adjnt 2/23 Aust Inf Bn Lieut

Distribution :

Copy No 1	A Coy	Copy No 11	Adjnt	Copy No 20	26 Aust Inf Bn
" " 2	B "	" " 12	R.M.O.	" " 21	2/48 " " Bn
" " 3	C "	" " 13	Q.M.	" " 22	2/1 Pnr Bn
" " 4	D "	" " 14	I. Offr	" " 23	4 War Diary
" " 5	HQ "	" " 15	S. Offr	" " 25	File
" " 6	1 RNF	" " 16	Pnr Offr	" " 26	Spare
" " 7/8	2/12 Fd Regtl Gp	" " 17	Mor Offr	" " 27	Spare
" " 9	C.O.	" " 18	Car Comd		
" " 10	2 I/C	" " 19	R.S.M.		

2/23 Aust Inf Bn Op. Instr. No. 12 — ALEX "A"

400

Ref. Map

TOBRUCH 1:50000.

□ X

□ Y

□ Z

430

430

175 ec

2/23 Aust. Inf. Bn.

1 Sep 41

2/23 AUST INF BN OP INSTN NO 12

APPX "B" - FIRE CHART

Date	Zero	Target Area	Unit	No of Guns	From	To	Kind of Fire	
2 SEP	2300 hrs	Area Z	B Coy	All wpns	Z	Z plus 3	Rapid	
			RNF	4 guns	Z pl 4	Z "	9	Normal
			Arty Gp	3 Tps	Z pl 10	Z "	13	Gun fire
			Mortars	All wpns	Z pl 14	Z "	17	Rapid
4 SEP	0230 hrs	Area X	C Coy	All wpns	Z	Z plus 3	Rapid	
			RNF	4 guns	Z pl 4	Z "	9	Normal
			Arty Gp	3 Tps	Z pl 10	Z "	15	Gun fire
4 SEP	2330 hrs	Area Y	A Coy	All wpns	Z	Z pl 3	Rapid	
			RNF	4 guns	Z pl 4	Z "	9	Normal
			Arty Gp	3 Tps	Z " 10	Z "	13	Gun fire
			Mortars	All wpns	Z " 14	Z "	17	Rapid
6 SEP	0400 hrs	Area X	C Coy	All wpns	Z	Z pl 3	Rapid	
			RNF	4 guns	Z pl 4	Z "	9	Normal
			Arty Gp	3 Tps	Z " 10	Z "	15	Gun fire
8 SEP	0300 hrs	Area Z	B Coy	All wpns	Z	Z pl 3	Rapid	
			RNF	4 guns	Z pl 4	Z "	9	Normal
			Arty Gp	3 Tps	Z " 10	Z "	13	Gun fire
			Mortars	All wpns	Z " 14	Z "	17	Rapid
8 SEP	2230 hrs	Area Y	A Coy	All wpns	Z	Z pl 3	Rapid	
			RNF	4 guns	Z pl 4	Z "	9	Normal
			Arty Gp	3 Tps	Z " 10	Z "	13	Gun fire
			Mortars	All wpns	Z " 14	Z "	17	Rapid

War Diary

SECRET

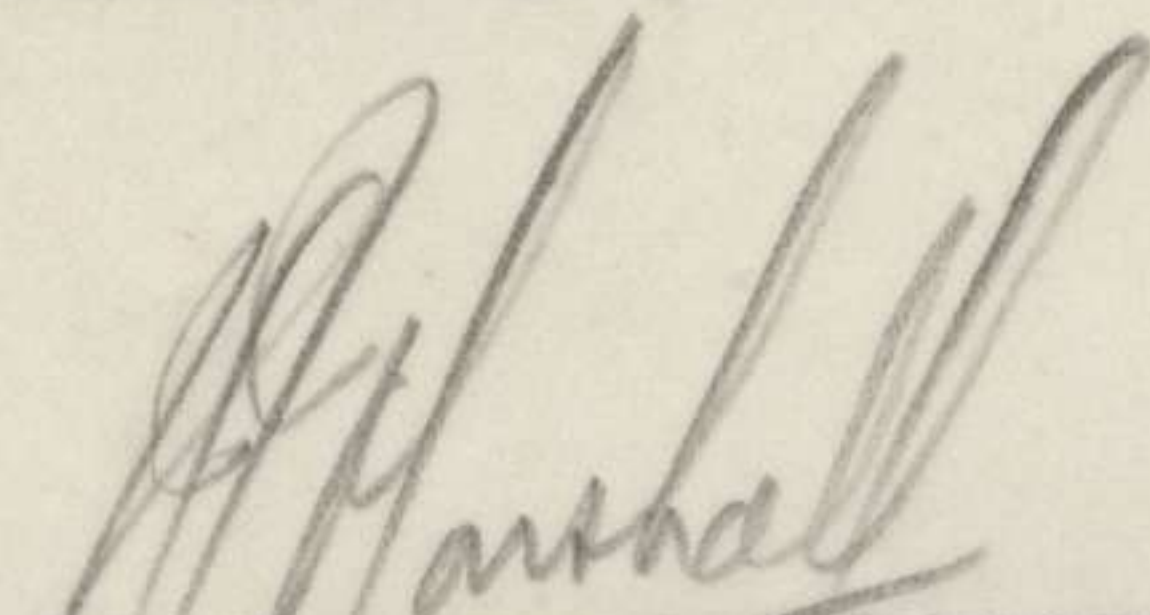
2/23 AUST INF BN

ADENDUM TO OP INSTN NO. 12.

Ref above. For operational reasons associated with Inter-Bn relief on night 9/10 Sep, timing of final shoot, listed in "Appx B - Fire Chart" is now changed by one hour, from 2230 hrs to 2330 hrs.

The shoot on 8 Sep, at Target Area Y2 will, therefore, be at 2330 hrs. Please amend chart accordingly.

ACK



Adjt

2/23 Bn

Lieut

W/ Diary

APPX 3

SECRET

Copy No 23

6 Sep 41.

ADDENDUM TO

2/23 Aust Inf Bn OP Instn No 12

Ref Map : TOBRUCH 1:50,000.

INFN

1. Enemy : Add

(iv) X2 AREA (by C Coy) : 39724311 - 39744311 to 39744312 - 39724312. This area contains at least 4 MG's, also suspected mortar posns.

(v) Y2 AREA (by A Coy) : 39814303 - 39854303 to 39814306 - 39854306. Number of sangers in this area, from many of which have been seen the flash of LMG's firing.

INTENTION

3. After "AREAS X, Y, and Z" insert "X2 and Y2".

APPX B - FIRE CHART

(a) Delete fire programme for "8 Sep 0300 hrs" and "8 Sep 2230 hrs".

(b) Substitute as hereunder.:-

Date	Zero	Target Area	Unit	No of guns	From	To	Kind of Fire
8 Sep	0230 hrs	Area X2	C Coy RNF Arty Gp	All wpns 4 guns 3 tps	Z Z plus 4 Z " 10	Z plus 3 Z " 9 Z " 13	Rapid Normal Gunfire
8 Sep	0300 hrs	Area Z	B Coy RNF Arty Gp Mortars	All wpns 4 guns 3 tps All wpns	Z Z plus 4 Z " 10 Z " 14	Z plus 3 Z " 9 Z " 13 Z " 17	Rapid Normal Gunfire Rapid
8 Sep	2230 hrs	Area Y2	A Coy RNF Arty Gp Mortars	All wpns 4 guns 3 tps All wpns	Z Z plus 4 Z " 10 Z " 14	Z plus 3 Z " 9 Z " 13 Z " 17	Rapid Normal Gunfire Rapid

ACK

Issued through Sigs and signed at 1225 hrs.

[Signature]

Adjnt 2/23 Aust Inf Bn Lieut

Distribution :

Copy No 1	A Coy	Copy No 10	2 i/c	Copy No 19	RSM
" 2	B "	" 11	Adjnt	" 20	26 Aust Bde
" 3	C "	" 12	RMO	" 21	2/48 Bn
" 4	D "	" 13	QM	" 22	2/1 Pnr Bn
" 5	HQ "	" 14	I Offr	" 23	War Diary
" 6	1 RNF	" 15	S Offr	" 24	War Diary
" 7	2/12 Fd Regtl Gp	" 16	Pnr Offr	" 25	File
" 8	2/12 Fd Regtl Gp	" 17	Mor Offr	" 26	Spare
" 9	CO	" 18	Car Comd	" 27	Spare

DIARY

APPX 4

SECRET
COPY NO 29

Ref Map: TOBRUCH 1/50,000.

7 Sep 41.

2/23 AUST INF BN OPERATION ORDER NO 11

INFORMATION :

1. Enemy - No known change in disposns.
2. Own Tps - 26 Aust Inf Bde is holding WESTERN SECTOR, with 2/1 Aust Pnr Bn on our right, 2/48 Aust Inf Bn on our left, and 2/24 Aust Inf Bn in res.

INTENTION :

3. (a) 2/23 Aust Inf Bn will be relieved by 2/24 Aust Inf Bn in SALIENT sector excl Post S.11 to 40024301, on night 9/10 SEP.
- (b) On relief, 2/23 Aust Inf Bn will occupy Bde res posn on BLUE LINE

METHOD :

4. Relief - Coys will be relieved as under :-

C Coy	by	C Coy	2/24	Aust	Inf	Bn
A	"	A	"	"	"	"
B	"	D	"	"	"	"
D	"	B	"	"	"	"

Composite Pl will move U/C B Coy.

5. On BLUE LINE, Bn disposns will be (from right) :- C Coy, B Coy, D Coy, A Coy, as already reced.
6. Carrier, Sig and Pnr Pls will move independently, under HQ Coy Comd's orders, reaching new situ by last light.
7. Recce - Coy Comds of incoming unit will recce posns on night 7/8 SEP. RV at BHQ at 2045 hrs to be led to Coy areas by night runners.
8. Adv Party from 2/24 Aust Inf Bn, comprising all rifle Coy 2 I/C's, batmen, 1 NCO and 2 OR's per pl, except A Coy (1 NCO and 4 OR's per pl), will be led to Coy HQ's by night runners, leaving BHQ 2045 hrs night 8/9 SEP.
9. Covering Tps - Adv personnel will be instructed in LP's and SP's on night 8/9 SEP, and will man these duties during inter-bn relief.
10. Main Body - On night 9/10 SEP.
 - (a) No move before 2100 hrs.
 - (b) Relief to be completed by 0200 hrs.
 - (c) Relief completed to be signalled to BHQ by code word HERALD.
11. Bussing Points -

Right fwd Coy	40094327
Centre fwd Coy	40124322
Left fwd Coy	40164326
Res Coy	40234325

As used on move in, night 20/21 AUG.
12. Guides -
 - (a) From 2115 hrs, one guide per coy will await incoming tps at debussing area. Pl and sec guides, as agreed between respective Coy Comds, will RV at Coy HQ's same time.

(b) For own tps reaching BLUE LINE, 2/24 Aust Inf Bn will leave pl guides as follows :- For B and C Coys, on roadside at block ref 40334346; for A, D, HQ Coys and BHQ, at PIMPLE 40324315.

These guides to be rationed by Coys on 10 SEP, and will rejoin own unit night 10/11 SEP.

- 13. On completion of relief, own tps will move to embussing pts and back-load on incoming unit's tp-carrying tpt, coys moving independently in own convoys to new posns.
- 14. Allotment of vehs - Will be notified by message.
- 15. Routes - According to orders of No 2 Tp-Carrying Coy AASC.
- 16. B Ech to remain present location.

ADM :

- 17. (a) Wpns and amn - As laid down in 26 Aust Inf Bde G.S. Instn No 7 (Coy allotments of Bn G.1098 scale will be notified separately)
- (b) Coy comds will mutually arrange to hand over LMG mountings on fixed lines in situ, and to take over equivalent number at Bde res posns.
- 18. (a) Res Water (in two-gal tins) and res rations of pres meat and biscuits, for 100 men per rifle coy, will be handed over in situ.
- (b) Surplus over 100 will be carried out by rifle coys, with ALL tea and sugar/ares (vide Bde G.S. Instn No 7).
- (c) BHQ and HQ Coy of each unit will carry all own res rations and water.
- 19. Trench Stores - Hand over as in Bde G.S. Instn No 7. Patrol boots will NOT be handed over.
- 20. Medical - RAP closes present location on completion relief, and re-opens under RMO's direction at ref 40364313.

INTERCOMN :

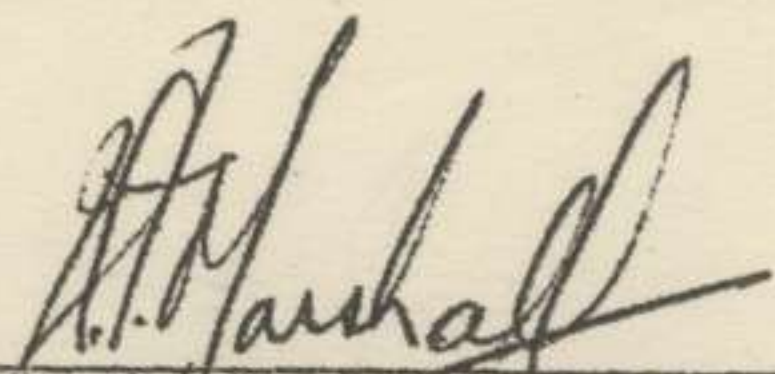
- 21. Sig Systems - Hand-over as in Bde G.S. Instn No 7.
- 22. Rear Bn HQ will open under 2 I/C at ref 40324315, at 2030 hrs.
- 23. Fwd Bn HQ will close present location when relief completed, moving immediately to ref 40324315.

ACK

Issued through Sigs and signed at 1800 hrs.

Distribution -

- Copy No 1 A Coy
- 2 B "
- 3 C "
- 4 D "
- 5 HQ "
- 6 No 2 Tp Carrying Coy AASC
- 7 C.O.
- 8 2 I/C
- 9 Adjt
- 10 Q.M.
- 11 R.M.O.
- 12 I.O.
- 13 Sig Offr
- 14 Pnr Offr
- 15 Mor Offr
- 16 Car Sgt


 Adjnt 2/23 Aust Inf Bn
 Copy No 17 Tpt Sgt
 18 R.S.M.
 19 26 Aust Inf Bde
 20 2/24 Aust Inf Bn
 21 2/1 Aust Pnr Bn
 22 2/48 Aust Inf Bn
 23/4 2/12 Aust Fd Regt
 25 1 RNF
 26 26 Aust A/Tk Coy
 27 2/13 Aust Fd Coy RAE
 28/9 War Diary
 30 File
 31 Spare
 32 Spare

Lieut

REPORT ON HARASSING SHOOT

APPX 5

CARRIED OUT IN SALIENT BY 2/23 AUST INF BN DURING

ITS TOUR OF DUTY ENDED - 9 SEP 41

OBJECT -

To obtain fire ascendancy over the enemy, whose posns were very close to our FDLs., and inflict as many casualties and damage for the minor expenditure of amn.

The areas selected were observed for several days by fwd Coys, and were finally plotted with a maximum area of 200 yds square. These areas - one in front of each fwd Coy was then carefully registered by day to the satisfaction of the Coy Comd concerned. The RNF's also witnessed the registrations to assist in their own plottings.

The shoots were then carried out vide Bn Op Instn No 12. Personnel of fwd Coys opened fire with ALL weapons. The enemy immediately responded. He was usually still shooting when the RNFs opened fire from another direction. Followed by the Arty Gp and Mortars.

RESULTS NOTED -

When the Bn took over the Sector, the enemy was most enterprising, and fired his weapons on wide arcs into our Section Posts. This is not the case at present. The enemy shows a disinclination to open fire at any time now.

The front has remained exceptionally quiet for over a week. (Up to time of our relief).

Casualties are considered to have been inflicted in every case for the following reasons:-

1. Recce patrols have pushed out to enemy FDLs and listened to screams and MT moving in and out. This was area X.
2. Enemy MGs and Mortar posns have been silenced and have not opened fire since.
3. Only LIGHT Mortar bombs now fall in our Southern Section of FDLs. This would indicate that the heavy Mortars fired from close posns have either been knocked out or have moved back to longer range, which forces the use of the lighter bombs.
4. The day following each shoot, heavy damage has been observed, such as sangars broken up - others with large holes in them. Enemy wire broken down with large gaps showing. The above is born out by the fact that for the past week extensive blasting operations are being carried out by the enemy each night, indicating that extensive protective works have been started.
5. Heavy and erratic retaliation shooting by enemy arty has taken place - usually about 20 mins after our harass.

Finally - some 50,000 rounds were used by fwd Coys and the moral effect on the troops has been most marked. They have had the opportunity of realising their fire strength, and they feel that they have got "on top" of the enemy.

Bernard Brown
Lt-Col
Comd 2/23 Bn

HAND-OVER OF INFN

9 Sep 41.

2/23 AUST INF BN ON RELIEF BY 2/24 AUST INF BNSALIENT SECTOR.1. GENERAL.

All infn and Maps relative to the SALIENT Sector, has been handed over by 2/23 Aust Inf Bn on relief by 2/24 Aust Inf Bn, on night 9/10 Sep 41.

INFN.2. OWN PLAN.

The Bn is holding the SALIENT Sector of the Western Perimeter from excl Post S.11 to ref 40024301.

- (a) The Bn disposn is three Coys fwd and one Coy in res.
 Right Coy from excl Post S.11 to incl 39834314.
 Centre fwd Coy from excl 39834314 to incl 39924309.
 Left fwd Coy from excl 39924309 to 40014300.
 Res Coy - Pl areas at the following vicinities :-

refs - 40054314
 40094314
 40084317.

BHQ at 40124322, and HQ Coy details extending NORTH down BIK Wadi to veh park at 40164326.
 A detachment of 4 carriers located at 40094329.

- (b) Pre-arranged lines of withdrawal. These have been indicated on the ground to relieving Coy Comds during recee prior to relief.
- (c) Arrangements for Arty support. Arty Liaison Offrs (Lieut J.K. Tutton of 2/12 Aust Fd Regt, and Lieut T. Narzyski of 1 Carpathian Arty Regt) are on continuous duty at BHQ. They assist and arrange any arty tasks which may be observed by their own OP Offrs, by the fwd Coys of the Bn, or selected by the Bn Comd. Signal for Defensive Fire is Green over White over Green, but this will not be used if LT is available.

There are 5 DF tasks in front of the Bn Sector, and 2 alternative DF tasks. These are :-

(No. 9) 39694317
 (No. 11) 39734312
 (No. 13) 39884310 - 39894319
 (No. 14) 39784308
 (No. 15) 39884303 - 39904302

Alternative DF tasks are :-

(No. 10) 39704317
 (No. 12) 39774307

There are also 4 Counter Preparation tasks on the Bn front, the centres of areas being :-

(O) 39674313
 (P) 39844307
 (Q) 39884292
 (R) 39894283

Of the DF tasks, Nos 9 and 14 are to be engaged by 2/12 Aust Fd Regt, and the others by 1 Carpathian Arty Regt. The 2 alternative fire tasks are also the responsibility of 1 Carpathian Arty Regt.

- (d) Sigs Layout. Signal diagram showing cable routes and alternative routes to all stations, will be handed over by the Signal Sgt.

Signal Security. All Coy HQs are on metallic return circuits with BHQ. Laterals between Coys and lines fwd of Coy HQ are earth returns. Lateral lines to the Unit on our right are earth returns. Because of the proximity of the enemy to our lines in this Sector, no great liberties in "clear" conversations ref proposed operations, are taken, even on metallic return circuits, although it is customary to regard these as "safe". Far stricter attention, of course, is to be paid to this aspect of Sig Security, when using earth return lines. Pl and Coy Comds to this end have evolved their own Coy codes, by which means useful infn can be passed back from fwd Posts in such apparently ridiculous sentences as to be unintelligible to the enemy. This Sig Security must at all times be rigidly adhered to in this Sector, for induction is so strong that many conversations in the background can be heard on instruments linked by earth return, and some foreign-sounding conversations may perhaps NOT be Polish.

Light Signals. In addition to SDF (above), the following light signals have been laid down as per GS Instn No 4 of 22 May 41 :-

Enemy attacking	-	Green over Red
Enemy infiltrating		
	-	3 or more Greens
Enemy tks near Post		
	-	Red over White
Post surrounded	-	3 or more Whites

As in the case of SDF, these will NOT be used if LT is available.

- (e) Field Works. Since 21 Aug 41 when the Unit came into this Sector, the following Field Works have been completed.

In fwd areas :-

- i. CT's deepened 50%. In some cases 100%.
- ii. Existing SB breastworks repaired.
- iii. 3000 SB's filled and laid to give added protection in WP's. Also to splinter-proof sleeping quarters and Pl HQ.
- iv. 25% additional dug-outs and WP's constructed.
- v. New crawl trenches dug. In some Pl areas up to 50% of these trenches taken to full depth.
- vi. Concrete shelter at S.10 repaired.
- vii. 4 timber OPs constructed.
2 timber OPs erected and camouflaged.
- viii. Protective wire repaired.
- ix. Two mortar pits constructed.
- x. Sangars repaired and splinter-proofed.

In the res Coy area :-

- i. Dug-outs and old diggings repaired.
- ii. Sangars strengthened and roofed.

- iii. Slit trenches dug.
- iv. TOBRUK pattern Section Post dug.

Projected Field Works Programme :-

- i. Construction of alternative posns, in all Coy areas.
- ii. Wiring in of Sec Posts.
- iii. Repair and thickening of Perimeter wire.
- iv. Additional SB protection to sec posts.
- v. Roofing of selected posns with concrete slabs.

(f) Posn of Flanking Units - Liaison arrangements.

2/1 Aust Pioneer Bn is on the right from incl Post S.11;
2/48 Aust Inf Bn on the left from ref 40014300.

Daily Unit Int Summaries are interchanged by the Bn in this Sector and its flanking Units. LT situ reports are transmitted to, and received from flanking Units at the following times daily :-

0200 hrs
0730 "
1130 "
1730 "
2200 "

The Bn in this Sector supplies its situ reports by the same means to Bde at :-

0730 hrs
1130 "
1730 "
2000 "

and at hourly intervals from 2000 hrs to 0730 hrs the following day.

It is the custom also for Unit IOs to exchange visits, a close liaison thus being maintained.

3. MAPS.

- ✓ (a) Situation Map (showing own and known enemy dispositions, O.Ps, A/Tks Guns, MMG's, Mortars, known minefields and A/Tks obstacles) to a scale of 1/20,000 is handed over.
- ✓ (b) Order of Battle as per trace 1/50,000. No recent identifications have been made although close observation on 4 Sep indicated that GERMAN tps still occupy this front.
- ✓ (c) Shelling Maps. Shelling has been recorded in Table form and NOT on maps. Shelling tables complete are handed over.
- ✓ (d) i. Fire Plan at Scale of 1/10,000 is handed over.
ii. Traces 1/50,000 showing areas which can be harassed by MG Bn, A/Tk gun posns and D.F. and C.P. tasks.
- ✓ (e) Own minefields as shown on Sit Map.
- ✓ (f) Patrol Maps are NOT kept. Instead, the reports of all patrols made, is handed over.
- ✓ (g) Special Maps. Each Coy and the Mortar Pl will hand over a map (1/20,000) similar to the situation map.
- ✓ (h) Aerial Photos Map. A trace to a scale of 1/12855, (being the same as the actual photos) is handed over.

4. ENEMYS HABITS.

Over/

4. ENEMYS HABITS.

(a) Patrolling. No patrols have been encountered or detected. On left coy front foot tracks indicate that Listening Posts are placed fwd of enemys wire by night.

(b) SHELLING.

i. Amount. Based on figures of previous Unit, the normal ammn expended on the area was 160 Shells and Mortar Bombs daily. This average was maintained until week ending 27 Aug but rose to 350 during following week. Since 4 Sep shelling has reverted to about normal, the daily average from 4 to 8 Sep incl being 183 shells and bombs. On 7 Sep the figures rose sharply to 427 and to 533 on 8 Sep.

ii. Areas. Taking 7 days - 28 Aug to 3 Sep - the daily average of 350 shells was distributed as follows:-

Right Coy	58 Shells	80	Mortars.
Centre "	16 "	11	"
Left "	71 "	62	"
Reserve"	33 "	2	"
BHQ	2 "	-	
Other areas	18 "	-	

iii. Targets.

- (a) Any movement indicating the occupation of dug posns (Enemy apparently uncertain which of the many posns rear of FDLs are occupied. This especially applies to reserve Coy area.)
- (b) Movement of more than 1 or 2 men together in rear areas by day.
- (c) Observed Veh movement.

iv. Times.

	Average		Average.
2400/0200 hrs	3	1200/1400 hrs	7
0200/0400 hrs	12	1400/1500 hrs	2
0400/0600 hrs	5	1500/1600 hrs	-
0600/0700 hrs	4	1600/1700 hrs	1
0700/0800 hrs	40	1700/1800 hrs	12
0800/0900 hrs	67	1800/1900 hrs	30
0900/1000 hrs	10	1900/2000 hrs	190
1000/1100 hrs	12	2000/2100 hrs	22
1100/1200 hrs	2	2100/2300 hrs	2
		2300/2400 hrs	56 X

X This average is NOT sustained being brought about by very heavy shelling on ONE night ONLY.

(c) Snipers. Located at "Ruined Plane" 39884311, Sangar 39884310 (probably alternative post), WATER POINT 39864310. Near S7 39744314.

(d) Verrey Light Sigs. White flares used frequently in fwd areas. The only verrey lights fired were 3 reds at 2115 hrs, repeated at 2130 hrs on 28 Aug for which no reason is offered - no D.F. was put down.

(e) Points specially liable to attack. From S9 to the left flank, there is no fwd minefield or other Tk obstacle. The area from S8 to the left is most liable to attack.

(f) Aircraft. There has been no bombing or MG'ing in the area. Recce flights are made occasionally and some "Air-shoots" carried out by the enemy.

5. TOPOGRAPHICAL.

(a) i. Areas under observation. All fwd posts and reserve Coy

5. TOPOGRAPHICAL. (Contd).

areas is under direct observation. Left and Res Coy HQ are NOT under observation. Centre Coy HQ only under long range observation, allowing of some movement.

- ii. Covered approaches. Right Coy - no covered approach - can only be reached under cover of darkness. Centre Coy - HQ can be approached by small numbers walking well dispersed via gap in minefield ref 40024323. Pl areas only approachable by night. Left Coy, HQ can be approached by small numbers walking well dispersed along re-entrant passing through Tk obstacle at 40064314. Pl areas can be approached by night only. Reserve Coy HQ can be approached under cover along re-entrant SOUTH from BHQ but Pl areas are under observation.

(b)

Good O.Ps. Box A ref 39894318 is a dugout affording good observation from 180 degs to 270 degs. Usual approach is by night via Centre Coy HQ but with extreme caution 1 man may crawl to it by day and escape notice.

Box F ref 39924325 is a prepared sangar giving good observation 160 degs to 220 degs. Approach via Centre Coy HQ by night or crawl by day.

Box S 10 gives good observation to the WEST from 240 degs to 300 degs. Approach by night.

Pole 1 ref 39964324 gives a wide arc of vision over the front, excluding the WEST and is most valuable for checking up on points of special interest. It was shelled (total 67 rds) when first erected but has received little attention recently. Approach by day is possible. An alternate dugout posn is at 39964323 but only duplicates the view from Box A.

Pole 2 ref 40154317 is used as a "Dummy" and has NOT been manned. Good observation is NOT provided from it. Has drawn 267 shells to 8 Sep.

(c) Likely FUPs for enemy.

- i. SW of MEDAUUAR HILL.
- ii. Low ground 500x SW of Post S5.
- iii. Re-entrant 600x WEST of Post S7.

6. FILES.

- ✓ (a) Collation files are handed over.
- ✓ (b) Patrol reports are handed over.
- ✓ (c) Aerial Photo interpretations are handed over. No photos in possession.
- ✓ (d) Action diary for preceeding 24 hrs is handed over.


Lieut
Adjt 2/23 Aust Inf Bn.

W. Drury

APPX 6

SECRET

COPY NO

28

11 SEP 41.

Ref Map TOBRUK 1/50,000.

2/23 AUST INF BN OP INSTN NO 13

ANTI-PARACHUTE TP ROLE

To be studied in conjunction with 26 Aust Inf Bde G.S. Instn No 10
Already promulgated to Coy Comds

INFORMATION :

1. Enemy has employed parachutist and air-borne tps in several campaigns of this war, and may at any time make use of them against TOBRUK FORTRESS.
- 2.. (a) 26 Aust Inf Bde is occupying WESTERN sector of perimeter.
(b) 2/23 Aust Inf Bn is Bde res bn, with four rifle coys disposed in line, SOUTH of DERNA RD, between 40344345 and 40224295-40364294, in order C, B, D, A.

INTENTION :

3. 2/23 Aust Inf Bn will fulfil primary responsibility of immediately reporting on, and engaging, parachute or airborne tps in area fwd of BLUE LINE to rear bdys of fwd coys (vide Bde G.S. Instn No 10 para 4a.

METHOD :

4. Coy Comds will ensure that all ranks are thoroughly familiar with the general orders laid down in para 2(a) and (b) of Bde G.S. Instn No 10, and that these orders are at all times complied with.
5. Air sentries will be mounted continuously - one per coy by day, two by night, with full and clear orders as to their duties, and responsibility of immediate report (vide Bde G.S. Instn No 10, para 3).
6. Mobile Tps warned for immediate duty :-
 - (a) NORTH of escarpment - 2 pls C Coy, as detailed by Coy Comd.
 - (b) SOUTH of escarpment - 1 pl D Coy, as detailed by Coy Comd.
7. Coy Comds will recce assembly areas, ^{amb}embussing pts, and alarm device, and notify BHQ. Tps in fighting order to be embussed and awaiting final orders within four minutes of alarm. Test embussing will be carried out, on later orders from BHQ, and immediate time reports will be furnished to Adjt.
8. Beyond pls in para 6, ALL coys, on general stand-to for para-defence being ordered, will be prepared to move additional tps at short notice, as required.
9. Attention is directed to para 4(c) of Bde G.S. Instn No 10.

ADM :

10. Recognition :- FOR OFFICERS ONLY - Para 5 of Bde G.S. Instn No 10 MUST be studied by all offrs, and kept SECRET until such time as these provisions have to be acted on.
11. Amn, rations, water :- These will be checked by Coy Comds in mobile pl tpt vehs, and reports of deficiencies be fwded forthwith to A/QM and RSM (rations or amn respectively) for adjustment.
12. Medical :- R.A.P. at present location, ref 40364313.

INTERCOMN :

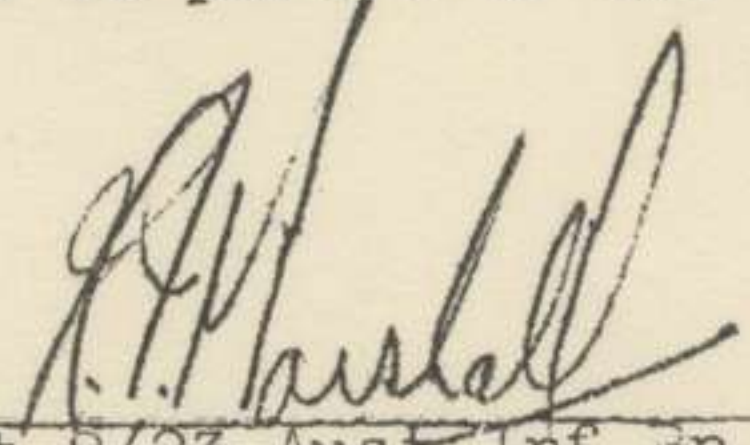
13. BHQ in present location, ref 40324315.

14. L/T will be used for alarm to BHQ, which will relay report to Bde HQ.

15. Code word to take recognition action, as in para 5 of Bde G.S. Instn No 10, will be JAUNDICE.

ACK

Issued through Sigs and signed
at 2000 hrs.


Adjut 2/23 Aust Inf Bn Lieut

Distribution -

Copy No	1	A Coy
	2	B "
	3	C "
	4	D "
	5	HQ "
	6	No 6 Tp-Carrying Coy AASC
	7	C.O.
	8	2 I/C
	9	Adjut
	10	R.M.O.
	11	I.O.
	12	Sig Offr
	13	Pnr Offr
	14	Mor Offr
	15	Car Comd
	16	Tpt Comd
	17	A/QM
	18	RSM
	19	26 Aust Inf Bde
	20	26 Aust A/Tk Coy
	21	20 Aust A/Tk Coy
	22	Polish M.G. Coy
	23	1 RNF
	24	2/13 Aust Fd Coy
25/26		2/12 Aust Fd Regt
27/28		War Diary
	29	File
	30	"
	31	"

Ref Map TOBRUK 1/50,000.

2/23 AUST INF BN OP INSTN NO 13

ANTI-PARACHUTE TP ROLE

To be studied in conjunction with 26 Aust Inf Bde G.S. Instn No 10
Already promulgated to Coy Comds

INFORMATION :

1. Enemy has employed parachutist and air-borne tps in several campaigns of this war, and may at any time make use of them against TOBRUK FORTRESS.
- 2.. (a) 26 Aust Inf Bde is occupying WESTERN sector of perimeter.
- (b) 2/23 Aust Inf Bn is Bde res bn, with four rifle coys disposed in line, SOUTH of DERNA RD, between 40344345 and 40224295-40364294, in order C, B, D, A.

INTENTION :

3. 2/23 Aust Inf Bn will fulfil primary responsibility of immediately reporting on, and engaging, parachute or airborne tps in area fwd of BLUE LINE to rear bdys of fwd coys (vide Bde G.S. Instn No 10 para 4a.

METHOD :

4. Coy Comds will ensure that all ranks are thoroughly familiar with the general orders laid down in para 2(a) and (b) of Bde G.S. Instn No 10, and that these orders are at all times complied with.
5. Air sentries will be mounted continuously - one per coy by day, two by night, with full and clear orders as to their duties, and responsibility of immediate report (vide Bde G.S. Instn No 10, para 3).
6. Mobile Tps warned for immediate duty :-
 - (a) NORTH of escarpment - 2 pls C Coy, as detailed by Coy Comd.
 - (b) SOUTH of escarpment - 1 pl D Coy, as detailed by Coy Comd.
7. Coy Comds will recce assembly areas, embussing pts, and alarm device, and notify BHQ. Tps in fighting order to be embussed and awaiting final orders within four minutes of alarm. Test embussing will be carried out, on later orders from BHQ, and immediate time reports will be furnished to Adjt.
8. Beyond pls in para 6, ALL coys, on general stand-to for para-defence being ordered, will be prepared to move additional tps at short notice, as required.
9. Attention is directed to para 4(c) of Bde G.S. Instn No 10.

ADM :

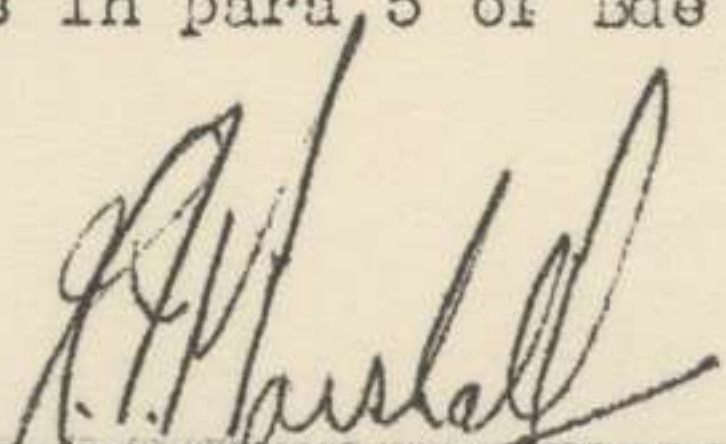
10. Recognition :- FOR OFFICERS ONLY - Para 5 of Bde G.S. Instn No 10 MUST be studied by all offrs, and kept SECRET until such time as these provisions have to be acted on.
11. Amn, rations, water :- These will be checked by Coy Comds in mobile pl tpt vehs, and reports of deficiencies be fwded forthwith to A/QM and RSM (rations or amn respectively) for adjustment.
12. Medical :- R.A.P. at present location, ref 40364313.

INTERCOMN :

13. BHQ in present location, ref 40324315.
14. L/T will be used for alarm to BHQ, which will relay report to Bde HQ.
15. Code word to take recognition action, as in para 5 of Bde G.S. Instrn No 10, will be JAUNDICE.

ACK

Issued through Sigs and signed
at 2000 hrs.


Adjnt 2/23 Aust Inf Bn Lieut

Distribution -

Copy No	1	A Coy
	2	B "
	3	C "
	4	D "
	5	HQ "
	6	No 6 Tp-Carrying Coy AASC
	7	C.O.
	8	2 I/C
	9	Adjnt
	10	R.M.O.
	11	I.O.
	12	Sig Offr
	13	Pnr Offr
	14	Mor Offr
	15	Car Comd
	16	Tpt Comd
	17	A/QM
	18	RSM
	19	26 Aust Inf Bde
	20	26 Aust A/Tk Coy
	21	20 Aust A/Tk Coy
	22	Polish M.G. Coy
	23	1 RNF
	24	2/13 Aust Fd Coy
	25/26	2/12 Aust Fd Regt
	27/28	War Diary
	29	File
	30	"
	31	"

FILE.

APPX 7

SECRET

2/23 Aust Inf Bn
In the Field.
11 Sep 41.

RIGHT SECTOR OF SALIENT.

(Excl 311 to incl ACROEA Road.)

Summary of enemy dispositions observed by 2/23 Aust Inf Bn during tour of duty 21 Aug to 9 Sep.

1. RIGHT FLANK.

- (a) Strongly named diggings (estimated Coy Strength) in vicinity 39704322 extending 200X to the SOUTH and 300X NORTH with posns 300X and 400X in rear. Contact has NOT been made but observation suggests the tps are ITALIAN with a few GERMANS. The posn adopts passive defence tactics. Working party was seen at 39674323 carrying timber - this is probably another Coy area. All have been harassed by Bn fire and battered by supporting Arty.
- (b) In the general area around 39534313 a defended posn is suspected in diggings. Limited inf movement and occasionally NF are seen. There are Mortar posns in the re-entrants near this area.
- (c) Suspected reserve Coy posn in area 39564314 where occasional movement is seen.

2. RIGHT CENTRE.

- (a) S7 and immediate surroundings is strongly held by GERMANS. They use firing posns 80X fwd right and left. 100X SOUTH and SE there are developed diggings and 3 prominent Sangars which are used for observation. Estimated strength 1 Pl. Works are being carried out between S7 and S6 approx 39754310 suggesting that these 2 posts will be joined to form 1 continuous line sited NORTH.
- (b) There is another strong post 100X EAST of S6. The enemy in this portion of the front adopt aggressive fire tactics. Estimated strength 1 Pl.
- (c) The rear supporting posn is believed to be near S5 at approx 39714307 where the enemy, estimated at 1 Pl, occupies diggings and Sangars.

3. LEFT CENTRE.

- (a) A strong post of Sangars and diggings at 39634306 area, believed to be another Pl posn.
- (b) A wired strong post, suggesting Pl strength in vicinity 39644304 with a possible fwd sec post at 39664306 from where NF fire is suspected at night.
- (c) Supporting Pl posn is believed to be in vicinity of Post S4. While strength of posts is NOT definitely known, the night fire indicates strong weapon power.

4. LEFT FLANK.

- (a) There is a strong posn vicinity 39694303 - probably wired - from which considerable weapon fire is experienced by night. Heavy Mortars firing from this area have been silenced.
- (b) Wired dug posn 39634302 is a developed Pl posn with S.B. breastworks. Is occupied by GERMANS and reveals strong firing power.

(c) Reserve or supporting post in dug pens vicinity 39864302 also contains Mortar pens.

NOTE: (a) (b) & (c) are believed to be pl areas with probable Coy HQ at 39834303 from where an Amb appeared and M/Cs have been heard at night.

(d) Fwd post (dug) vicinity 39864299 is wired-in and has strong weapon fire but otherwise nothing is known of its strength. This is perhaps the enemy's left pl of a coy opposite "BIANCA". A reserve Coy pen on the high slopes of MEXANAR HILL is capable of strong supporting fire for the fwd posts.

DETAILED INFORMATION

1. HQ's 39884300 - 39744312 - 39864308 - 39734312 - 39734314
39744312 - 39724311 - 39724322 - 39784307 and around 87.
Also at 39734313.
2. MORTARS 39864302 - 39744296 (light mortar) at 39864302 has NOT fired since 23 Aug.
3. ARTY. Exact pens NOT known but fire comes from rear of CARRIER HILL and 394431 square.
4. OP's Trig 200 for general observation with subsector OPs at 39734311 (sangan) 39864314 (pole) 39864309 (sangan) 39784308 (water tower).
5. SHIPS 39864311 (Wreck of Plane) 39864310 (sangan) 39864310 (water point). Sangan 500 YARDS NORTH of 87 and Carrier 39864303.
6. MOVEMENT SEEN. (Numbers of enemy in brackets). 39864312 (4), 39784292 (3), 39734312 (2 to 6 on many occasions), 39784307 (1), 39744322 (40/50 shaking blankets) 39734311 - 39734310 (2 or 3 on many occasions) 39674322 (50 carrying timber), 43824311 (3), 39864309 (3), 39864315 (3/6 in diggings) 39744316 (1/2 in sangars) 39674322 (30/50 working and shaking blankets) 39674325 (25/30 carrying timber).
7. Minefields. Single row A/Tx mines plotted from 39744316/39784316. A/Tx mines vicinity WATER POINT is probably a portion of original British field. No mines found fwd of left Coys left pl and no Anti Personnel mines or Booby traps found.
8. WORKS IN PROGRESS.
 - (a) 39744335 (40/50 men).
 - (b) 39784311 - new earthworks extending ESE and WNW for 1000
 - (c) 39844302 to 3974299.
 - (d) 39784308 - blasting from 2 to 6 Sep.
39864304 - blasting from 6 to 8 Sep.
39834303 - blasting from 8 to 8 Sep.
9. RATIONS. What is thought to be rations are brought per MT from 39864315 disappearing at 39834311 at approx 0745 hrs and again at 2000 hrs.
10. METHODS. It is suspected that HQs are moved fwd to night firing pens to avoid revealing the pen of the actual strong post.
11. AIR ACTIVITY. No hostile activity has taken place but frequent recon flights are made over Western perimeter.
12. VEHEMENT LIGHTS AND FLARES. 3 Reds from 85 at 2115 hrs and 2120 hrs on 28 Aug - reason NOT known. DF was NOT put down. White flares (illuminating) are used frequently.

Amckey

L.O. 2/25 Aust Inf Bn.

Moat

W. Diary

APPX 8
SECRET
COPY NO 24

12 SEP 41.

Ref Map - TOBRUK 1/50,000

2/23 AUST INF BN OP INSTN NO 14

RES BN COUNTER-ATTACK ROLE

INFORMATION :

1. Enemy : (a) As in Op Order No 10, and subsequent Int Summaries (promulgated) - No new known disposns.
(b) Latest infn in final orders (vide para 8).
2. Own Tps : 1 Polish Cav Regt holds sector of WESTERN perimeter from coastline, ref 40154414 to incl S.29, otherwise as in Op Instn No 13.

INTENTION :

1. 2/23 Aust Inf Bn will counter-attack, as ordered, in WESTERN sector.

TYPES OF ATTACK :

4. Three types of counter-attack are considered as most likely to be needed :-

Type (i) - Immediate counter-attack by one coy to mop up small enemy parties; following small sudden break, with infiltration through an F.D.L. coy to res areas.

Type (ii) - Immediate counter-attack by one coy fwd, one coy in close support, and a third in Bn res under warning order; to relieve isolated centres of resistance in a fwd bn area following larger-scale break-through.

Type (iii) - Deliberate Bn counter-attack to restore a portion of F.D.L.'s; following successful consolidation by enemy inf.

METHOD :

5. 26 Aust Inf Bde sector is divided into four sub-sectors :-

Sub-sector W - Coastline 40154414 to incl S.29 (1 Polish Cav).

Sub-sector X - Excl S.29 to incl S.11 (2/1 Aust Pnr Bn).

Sub-sector Y - Excl S.11 to ref 40014303 (2/24 Aust Inf Bn).

Sub-sector Z - Ref 40014303 to excl R.13 (2/48 Aust Inf Bn).

6. Coy responsibilities, according to type of attack (vide para 4) and sub-sector (vide para 5), are shown in Table, Appx A.
7. Recce - Within 36 hrs of receipt of this instn, coy comds to study, by map and ground recce, likely routes through sub-sectors, location of relevant minefields, and to notify BHQ of the following, according to allotment of coy responsibilities (Appx A) :-
 - (a) Assembly areas.
 - (b) Embussing areas (MT move to a F.U.P. may be ordered).
 - (c) Suitable point from which to take bearings for direction of attack.
8. Final Orders - For Types of Attack (i) and (ii) (para 4) these may be expected either verbally or by message form, and will cover the following operational details :-

- (a) All available infn.
- (b) Sub-sector of attack.
- (c) Type of attack.
- (d) Objective(s).
- (e) Direction of attack, bearings, etc.
- (f) F.U.P., start line.
- (g) Timings .
- (h) Arty fire plan and any other support.
- (i) Limit of exploitation.

For Type of Attack (iii), Bn Op Order will be issued, following receipt of plan from higher formations.

ADM :

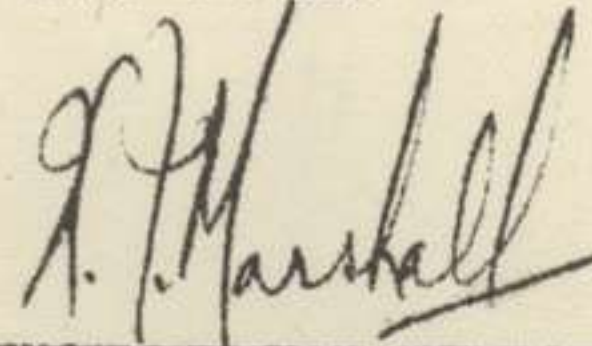
- 9. Amn - (a) Extra 50 SAA (bandolier) per man.
(b) Coy SAA res, on warning order, will be loaded on one A Ech veh, to stand by.
- 10. Full battle rations on man.
- 11. Medical - (a) S.B.'s with attacking coys, as allotted by R.M.O.
(b) RAP in present location, ref 40364313.

INTERCOMN :

- 12. BHQ in present location for Types (i) and (ii) unless establishment of a fwd BHQ for the operation is notified in final orders; with rt res coy for Type (iii).
- 13. Success signal - Two greens.
Fwd coy in need of close support coy - Two reds.

ACK

Issued through Sigs and signed at
2030 hrs.



Adjnt 2/23 Aust Inf Bn

Lieut

Distribution :

- Copy No 1 A Coy
- 2 B "
- 3 C "
- 4 D "
- 5 HQ "
- 6 No 3rd Tp Carrying Coy AASC
- 7 C.O.
- 8 2 I/c.
- 9 A djt
- 10 R.M.O.
- 11 I.O.
- 12 Sig Offr
- 13 Pnr Offr
- 14 Mor Offr
- 15 Car Comd
- 16 Tpt Comd
- 17 A/QM
- 18 R.S.M.
- 19 26 Aust Inf Bde
- 20 Polish M.G. Coy
- 21 1 R.N.F.
- 22/23 2/12 Aust Fd Regt
- 24/26 War Diary
- 26 File
- 27 File
- 28 Spare
- 29 Spare
- 30 Spare

APPX "A".

Coy Sub-Sector Responsibilities

Type of Attack	Coys responsible in				Final Orders	Tpt
	Sub-Sec W	Sub-Sec X	Sub-Sec Y	Sub-Sec Z		
Type (i)	C Coy	B Coy	D Coy	A Coy	As in para 8	Coys will be notified if tp-carrying tpt is to be used to a selected F.U.P.
Type (ii)	C Coy fwd B Close support D Reserve	B Coy fwd D close support C Reserve	D Coy fwd A close support B Reserve	A Coy fwd D close support B Reserve	As in para 8	
Type (iii)	C & B fwd D & A res Fwd BHQ with rt res Coy	C & B fwd D & A res Fwd BHQ with rt res Coy	B & D fwd C & A res Fwd BHQ with rt res Coy	D & A fwd B & C res Fwd BHQ with rt res Coy	Bn Op Order	

WAR DIARY

APPX 9

SECRET

Copy No 31

2/23 Aust Inf Bn Operation Order No. 12.

16 Sep 41.

Ref Map : TOBRUK 1:50,000.

INFN

1. Enemy -

- (a) Posns in SALIENT appear to be held by GERMANS, although some ITALIAN working parties may come fwd at night.
- (b) MG's are numerous and active, but are best subdued by strong offensive action of our arty, mortars, MMG's and LMG's against known posns.
- (c) Such aggressive action must be timed so as NOT to rouse retaliation during early periods of darkness when our ration and other carrying parties are moving in open areas.
- (d) Enemy has strongposts in front of right and centre fwd coys, at 40024292, 39994290, 39984290, and 39954280 (SPANDAU SAM).
- (e) Minefield has been inspected from 40004272 to 39904263, and found to be plotted correctly.
- (f) MMG and shellfire has been heavier on left coy than on other coy areas.

2. Own Tps -

26 Aust Inf Bde is holding WESTERN Sector of Perimeter with -

- (a) 1 Polish Cav Regt - Coastline to incl S 29;
- (b) 2/1 Aust Pnr Bn - Excl S 29 to incl S 11;
- (c) 2/24 Aust Inf Bn - Excl S 11 to ref 40014303;
- (d) 2/48 Aust Inf Bn - Ref 40014303 to excl ~~R 13~~; R 11;
- (e) 2/23 Aust Inf Bn - Ref 40344345 to ref 40224295 - 40364294 (Bde res Bn).

INTENTION

2/23 Aust Inf Bn will relieve 2/48 Aust Inf Bn on night 17/18 Sep.

METHOD

4. Disposns -

Three coys fwd, one in res, as under :-

- Right - D Coy from 40014303 to 40084294, will relieve D Coy 2/48 Aust Inf Bn.
- Centre - C Coy from 40084294 to 40054280, will relieve C Coy 2/48 Aust Inf Bn.
- Left - B Coy in Posts R 8, R 9, and R 10 will relieve B Coy 2/48 Aust Inf Bn.
- Res - A Coy at vicinity 40214281 - 40284274 will relieve A Coy 2/48 Aust Inf Bn.

HQ Coy details at vicinity 40354285 & 40344280.

5. Adv Party -

To move with 24 hrs rations :

- (a) Night 15/16 Sep, one man per sec of each rifle coy.
- (b) Night 16/17 Sep, rifle coy 2 i/c's, batmen, pl Sgts, and nucleus gps as arranged between coy comds of respective Bns.
- (c) From 2/48 Aust Inf Bn, rifle coy 2 i/c's, batmen, and 1 OR per sec, will report to BLUE LINE posns during afternoon of 17 Sep, except in case of B Coy, whose party will report night 16/17 Sep.

6. Covering Tps -

Nucleus gps will be instructed in LP's and SP's on night 16/17 Sep, and will man these during relief.

7. Main Body -

Night 17/18 Sep :

- (a) No move before 2000 hrs.
- (b) Relief to be completed by 0100 hrs.
- (c) Completion to be signalled BHQ by code word SPORTSMAN.

8. (a) A and D Coys will move on foot by pls, at 15 minute intervals from 2000 hrs direct to new posns.

(b) BHQ and HQ Coy (4 vehs), B Coy (5 vehs) and C Coy (5 vehs) will move by 3 ton tp-carrying tpt at 2000 hrs, 2010 hrs, and 2020 hrs respectively.

9. Carrier, Sig, and Pnr pls will move independently under HQ Coy Comd's orders.

10. Embussing Pts -

Rifle coys, in vicinity coy HQs; BHQ and HQ Coy, at BHQ wadi.

11. Debussing Areas -

BHQ and HQ Coy at 40334286;
B Coy at 40274278;
C Coy at 40234290.

12. Routes -

A and D Coys, as selected by Coy Comds; veh convoys, according to recce by No 2 Tp Carrying Coy A.A.S.C. Each veh convoy will be led to its debussing area by a guide, to be picked up at MP, ref 40414301.

13. Guides -

- (a) For A and D Coys, one guide per pl. will report from 2/48 Aust Inf Bn to BLUE LINE Coy HQs at dark.
- (b) For B and C Coys, pl guides from 2/48 Aust Inf Bn will lead incoming tps from debussing areas to posts.

14. On taking over new posns, coys will stand-to until Coy Comds have signalled completion of relief.

15. B Ech will remain present location.

ADM

16. (a) Wpns, Amn - As laid down in 26 Aust Inf Bde GS Instn No 7.

(b) Coy Comds will mutually arrange to take over LMG mountings on fixed lines in situ, and leave equivalent number to be taken in exchange by 2/48 Aust Inf Bn at Bde res posn.

17. (a) Res water (in two-gal tins) and res rations of pres meat and biscuits, for 100 men per rifle coy, will be taken over in situ.

(b) Surplus over 100 will be carried in by rifle coys, with ALL tea and sugar res (vide Bde GS Instn No 7).

(c) BHQ and HQ Coy of each unit will carry ALL own res rations and water.

18. Trench Stores -

Take over as in Bde GS Instn No 7. Patrol boots to be retained, NOT exchanged.

19. Medical -

RAP to move as mutually agreed by RMOs, opening at ref 40324285 at 2230 hrs.

INTERCOMM

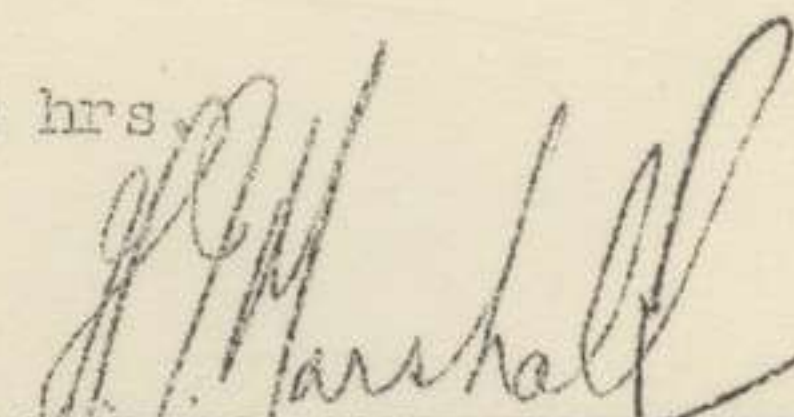
20. Sig Systems -

Take-over as in Bde GS Instn No 7.

21. Fwd BHQ under CO will open at ref 40264278 at 2000 hrs; rear BHQ at BLUE LINE, under 2 i/c, to close when last of own tps are clear of Bde res area.

ACK

Issued through Sigs and signed at 1815 hrs


Lieut
Adjt 2/23 Aust Inf Bn

DISTRIBUTION

Copy No	1	A Coy	Copy No	18	RSM
" "	2	B "	" "	19	26 Aust Inf Bde
" "	3	C "	" "	20	2/48 Aust Inf Bn
" "	4	D "	" "	21	2/24 Aust Inf Bn
" "	5	HQ "	" "	22	2 Polish Inf Bn
" "	6	No 2 Tp-Carrying Coy AASC.	" "	23	2/12 Aust Fd Regt
" "	7	CO	" "	24	2/12 Aust Fd Regt
" "	8	2 i/c	" "	25	3 Aust A Tk Regt
" "	9	Adjt	" "	26	26 Aust A Tk Coy
" "	10	RMO	" "	27	20 Aust A Tk Coy
" "	11	IO	" "	28	1 RNF
" "	12	Sig Offr	" "	29	2/13 Aust Fd Coy
" "	13	Pnr Offr	" "	30	War Diary
" "	14	Mor Offr	" "	31	War Diary
" "	15	Car Comd	" "	32	File
" "	16	Tpt Comd	" "	33	Spare
" "	17	A/QM.	" "	34	Spare

SECRET.Copy No. 3323 Sep 41.

Ref Map : TOBRUK 1/50,000.

2/23 Aust Inf Bn Op Instn No. 15.INFN

1. As in Op Order No 12, and subsequent Int Summaries.
2. Latest infn enemy and own tps, will be given with final orders. (vide para 12).

INTENTION

3. Res Coy, with one sec carriers, and one det mortars, will deliver immediate counter attack, when ordered.

METHOD

4. Bn Sector is divided into three sub-sectors :-
 - (a) Sub-Sec 1 - Right fwd Coy area.
 - (b) Sub-Sec 2 - Centre " " "
 - (c) Sub-Sec 3 - Left " " "
5. Formation -
One pl fwd, two in res, one of which is Tk/H pl. (vide para 8).
6. Carrier Role -
One sec carriers to move by bounds well dispersed, in rear of, and flanking, the res pls, affording close-support MMG fire, stationary or on move, at opportunity targets.
7. Mortar Role -
 - (a) By day : Two 81 mm mortars to be sited, within 24 hrs receipt of this Instn, to provide close support by observed fire for res coy's adv into any one of the three sub-sectors.
 - (b) By night : Concentrations on specified break-through area.
8. Tk/H Pl -
One pl of res coy will be nominated and instructed forthwith for this role, and will carry coy's full allotment of Boys A Tk rifles, with extra Grenades 68 and ST, and other A Tk devices.
9. F.U.P. -
Present res coy locality.
10. Start Line, Route -
Vide para 13.
11. Limit of Exploitation -
Present FDL's.
12. Final Orders -
To be issued verbally, or by message form, and to cover :-
 - (a) All available infn.
 - (b) Sub-Sector of attack.
 - (c) Objective (s).
 - (d) Timings.
 - (e) Arty fire plan, and any other support.

13. Recce -

Res coy comd, and carrier pl comd, to make immediate and full recce of each sub-sector, favourable routes (compass bearings, etc), minefields and gaps, and suitable start lines. Latter will be notified BHQ promptly, and indicated to pl comds on the ground.

ADM

14. Amn -

- (a) Extra 50 SAA (bandolier) on man.
- (b) One carrier will report to load small mobile res, and then await orders to move.
- (c) Rest of coy res will be loaded on one A Ech veh, to move as ordered by coy.comd.

15. Wpns -

- (a) Boys A Tk rifles, vide para 8.
- (b) Bren tripods will be loaded on amn veh.

16. R.A.P. -

In present situ. SB's to move as ordered by RMO.

INTERCOMN

17. Coy HQ as ordered by coy comd.

18. BHQ in present location, unless otherwise notified.

19. Success Signal -

Red over red over green.

ACK

Issued through sigs and signed at 1515 hrs

Adjut 2/23 Aust Inf Bn. Lieut

Distribution -

Copy No	1	A Coy	Copy No	19	Mortar Offr
" "	2	"	" "	20	Arty Gp
" "	3	"	" "	21	" "
" "	4	"	" "	22	C.O.
" "	5	E Coy	" "	23	2 i/c
" "	6	"	" "	24	Adjut
" "	7	"	" "	25	RMO
" "	8	"	" "	26	I.O.
" "	9	C Coy	" "	27	Sig Offr
" "	10	"	" "	28	RSM
" "	11	"	" "	29	26 Aust Inf Bde
" "	12	"	" "	30	1 RNF
" "	13	D Coy	" "	31	149 A Tk Regt
" "	14	"	" "	32	War Diary
" "	15	"	" "	33	War Diary
" "	16	"	" "	34	File
" "	17	HQ Coy	" "	35	File
" "	18	Carrier Pl	" "	36	Spare

SECRET

Copy No. //

30 Sep 41.

Ref Map :- TOBRUK 1/50,000.

2/23 Aust Inf Bn Op Instrn No 16

INFN

1. Target areas have been selected by fwd Coys at co-ordinates hereunder :-

- (i) Area X (D Coy);
39954300-39974300 to 39974302-39954302.
Occupied diggings with at least 3 MG's.
- (ii) Area X2 (D Coy);
39994292-40014292 to 40014294-39994294.
Occupied diggings and 3 known mortar posns.
- (iii) Area Z (B Coy);
39914281-39934281 to 39934283-39914283.
Occupied diggings, with 1 known mortar,
1 MMG, and at least 1 LMG.
- (iv) Area Z2 (B Coy);
39934276-39954276 to 39954278-39934278.
Occupied diggings with 4 known MG's and
1 suspected mortar.

Both Z and Z2 Areas contain heavy concentrations of enemy.

INTENTION

2. Harassing fire by timed programme, vide table attached, will be put down on Target Areas, with fwd coys standing to, for engaging opportunity targets with SA fire.

METHOD

- 3. Tps taking part.
Fwd coys 2/23 Aust Inf Bn
No 3 (Mortar) Pl
Arty Gp
- 4. Under direction Mortar Officer, mortars will shoot simultaneously with Arty Gp.
- 5. Timings -
As to attached table.

ADM

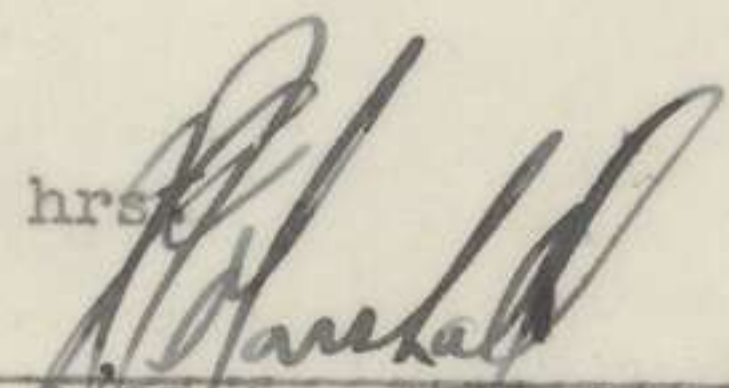
6. By personal liaison or by telephone, participants will synchronise time with Duty Officer at BHQ Operation Room at 1600 hrs 30 Sep 41 and 0500 hrs 1 Oct 41.

INTERCOMN

7. BHQ at 40264278.

ACK

Issued through Sigs, and signed at 1215 hrs


Adjt 2/23 Aust Inf Bn

Lieut

DISTRIBUTION :

Copy No 1	Arty Liaison Offr	Copy No 2	Mortar Offr	Copy No 3	D Coy
" " 4	C Coy	" " 5	B Coy	" " 6	A "
" " 7	C.O.	" " 8	Adjt	" " 9	26 Bde
" " 10	War Diary	" " 11	War Diary	" " 12	File

FIRE TABLE

Date	Zero	Target Area	From	To	Kind of Fire
<u>30 SEP</u>	1730 hrs	X	Z	Z plus 3	Arty 70 rds; Mortars rapid; Fwd coys standing to, for sniping of opportunity targets by SA fire.
	1743 hrs	X2	Z	Z plus 3	
	1800 hrs	Z	Z	Z plus 3	
	1813 hrs	Z2	Z	Z plus 3	
<u>1 OCT</u>	0600 hrs	X	Z	Z plus 3	Arty 70 rds; Mortars rapid; Fwd coys standing to, for sniping of opportunity targets by SA fire.
	0613 hrs	X2	Z	Z plus 3	
	0626 hrs	Z	Z	Z plus 3	
	0640 hrs	Z2	Z	Z plus 3	

W.D APPX 12A

SECRET.

Ref Map : TOBRUCH 1:50,000.

Copy No. 29

30 Sep 41.

2/23 Aust Inf Bn Operation Order No 13

INFN :

1. Enemy - No known changes in disposns.
2. Own Tps - 26 Aust Inf Bde, between 1 and 4 Oct, is handing over WESTERN Sector to 1 Pol Bde, and moving to res bde area, with 2/24 Aust Inf Bn at SIDI MARHMUD, and 2/48 Aust Inf Bn at ARIENTE.

INTENTION :

3. 2/23 Aust Inf Bn will :-
 - (a) Be relieved by 2 Pol Inf Bn, on night 3/4 Oct, in LEFT SALIENT Sector.
 - (b) Move to PILASTRINO res posn, on completion of relief.

METHOD :

4. Relief - Coys will be relieved as under :-

D Coy	by	No 4 Coy	2 Pol Inf Bn
C Coy	"	No 3 Coy	" " " "
B Coy	"	No 2 Coy	" " " "
A Coy	"	No 1 Coy	" " " "

5. Disposns at PILASTRINO will be, from the right :-

D Coy
 C "
 B "
 A "
 BHQ at Bridge (40734306)
 HQ Coy as before.

6. Carrier, Sig, and Pnr Pls will move independently under HQ Coy Cmd's orders.
7. Recece of PILASTRINO area - As ordered by CO. Coy 2 i/c's, batmen, and one man per sec will backload on coy ration vehs to new posns on night 2/3 Oct, and guide in main body from debussing areas following night.
8. Pol Adv Parties - The following, from 2 Pol Inf Bn, will RV at BHQ at 1900 hrs 1 Oct, and be led out to respective localities by the night sig runners :-

- (a) No 4 Coy (to D) - 3 Offrs 11 OR's
- (b) No 3 " (to C) - 3 " 12 "
- (c) No 2 " (to B) - 3 " 12 "
- (d) No 1 " (to A) - 3 " 12 "
- (e) HQ Coy (to HQ Coy) - OC or 2 i/c; Sig, Carrier, Pnr, and Mortar Offrs.
- (f) BHQ - IO
 Reporting at B Ech- QM, TO with one dvr per coy (to learn routes by travelling with ration vehs).

NOTE :

- (i) Each rifle coy adv party will include Coy Cmd, and one interpreter (fair knowledge of Eng).
 - (ii) All adv personnel will carry 48 hrs rations.
9. Main Body - On night 3/4 Oct.
 - (a) No move fwd of BLUE LINE before ¹⁹⁰⁰~~2000~~ hrs.
 - (b) Relief completed and outgoing unit clear of fwd areas by 0500 hrs.
 - (c) Relief completed, will be signalled FHQ by code word BEER.

10. Bussing Areas -

Right fwd coy	-	vicinity coy HQ
Centre " "	-	" " "
Left " "	-	" 40274278
Res Coy	-	" 40264283
BHQ and HQ Coy	-	At veh pk, vicinity 40304281.

11. Guides -

- (a) From ¹⁸⁴⁵1945 hrs, one guide per coy will await tp-carrying convoys at BARREL turn-off, ref 40424301. Each will guide his respective coy convoy to debussing area (vide para 10).
- (b) Sec guides, as arranged mutually between rifle coy cmds, will RV at bussing areas by 2000 hrs, to lead incoming tps to fwd posns; similarly one guide from I Sec for BHQ, and one per pl for HQ Coy.
- (c) For own tps entering PILASTRINO - individual coy arrangement through nucleus gps (vide para 7). Coy cmds will ensure that selected guides for (a) are thoroughly familiar with BARREL RV, bussing areas, and respective routes between.

- 12. On completion of relief, own tps will move to bussing areas and backload on tp-carrying tpt, coys moving independently to new posns. Allotment of vehs to be notified.
- 13. One tp-carrier each from BHQ-HQ Coy convoy and C Coy convoy will remain at veh pk to on-load and tpt covering tps.
- 14. Covering Tps - Usual SP's and LP's from fwd coys, and DF sentries from res coy, will cover relief, withdrawing in sufficient time to be clear of fwd areas by first light (0547 hrs), and moving direct to tp-carriers at veh pk. Senior NCO of C Coy party will check loading and order departure of vehs.
- 15. Move of B Ech to new situ in square 413432, to be completed by last light 3 Oct, in liaison with Bde TO.

ADM :

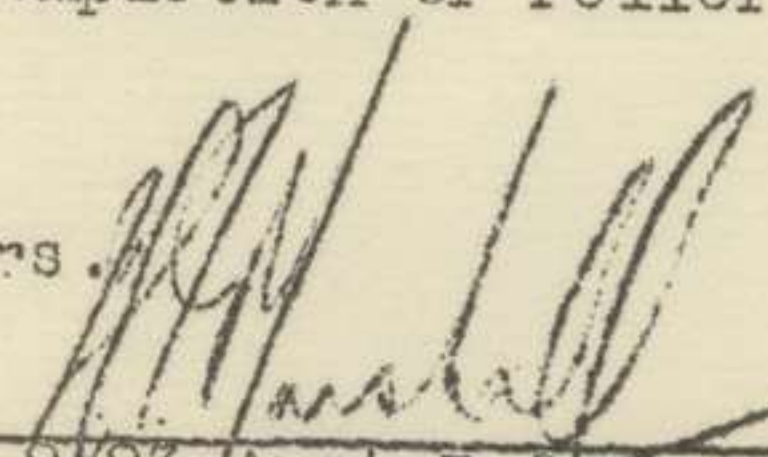
- 16. Wpns -
 - (a) As shown in Appx A (Distribution List A), to be left in situ.
 - (b) Procedure for LMG mountings to be notified by later signal.
- 17. Arm - According to RSM's orders to CSMs.
- 18. Rations - Three days res rations (pres meat, biscuits, tea, sugar) will be carried by outgoing coys.
- 19. Water - Three days res to be left in situ, and checked on relief.
- 20. Trench and Post Stores - As shown in Appx B (Distribution List A).
- 21. Medical - RAP closes present location on completion of its own relief; re-opens under instns RMO at ref 40714307.

INTERCOMM :

- 22. Sig Systems - Handover as in Bde G.S. Instn No 7.
- 23. Rear BHQ will open at BRIDGE, ref 40704303, at last light.
- 24. Fwd BHQ will close present location on completion of relief.

ACK

Issued through Sigs and signed at 1700 hrs.


 _____ Lieut
 Adjt 2/23 Aust Inf Bn

DISTRIBUTION :

Copy No	1	A Coy	Copy No	17	A/QM
" "	2	B "	" "	18	Tpt Sgt
" "	3	C "	" "	19	RSM
" "	4	D "	" "	20	26 Aust Inf Bde
" "	5	HQ "	" "	21	3 Pol Inf Bn
" "	6	No 2 Tp-Carrying Coy AASC	" "	22	20 Aust Inf Bde
" "	7	2 Pol Inf Bn	" "	23	Arty Gp
" "	8	CO	" "	24	Arty Gp
" "	9	2 i/c	" "	25	Arty Gp
" "	10	Adjnt	" "	26	1 RNF
" "	11	RMO	" "	27	149 A Tk Regt
" "	12	IO	" "	28	2/3 Aust Fd Coy
" "	13	Sig Offr	" "	29	War Diary
" "	14	Pnr Offr	" "	30	War Diary
" "	15	Mor Offr	" "	31	File
" "	16	Carrier Sgt	" "	32/33	Spare

DISTRIBUTION LIST A : (For Appx A and B)

A Coy	CC
B "	2 i/c
C "	Adjnt
D "	A/QM
HQ "	RSM
Pnr Offr	2 Pol Inf Bn
Sig Offr	26 Aust Inf Bde
Mor Offr	Spare (6 copies)

APPX B.

TRENCH AND POST STORES

The following Trench and Post Stores will be LEFT in situ, for incoming unit :-

Stores	B Ech	BHQ	HQ Coy	A Coy	B Coy	C Coy	D Coy	Total
Picks complete	16	-	-	27	34	40	61	178
Helves pick	2							2
Shovels	34	-	-	42	29	43	54	202
Mawls	1							1
Cutters wire	6						3	9
Sandbags					500		50	550
Nets Cnflg			5	1		5		11
Mines A Tk (tin hat) 2								2
Charges demolition					4			4
Hammers hy							1	1
Hammers it				2		2	8	12
Drills rock						1	6	7
Scoops							4	4
Tickets long					12	20	56	88
Pickets short					60	50	160	270
Wire coils					1	6	35	42
Cups discharger				1	5	3	3	12
Periscopes				2	8	6	10	26
Latrine boxes surface		3	5	11	19	7	13	48
Latrine boxes trench					4	3		7
Grenades ST		33		24	10	24	25	116
Grenades 68				34	23	16	18	91
Generators smoke		50		13	11	49	28	151
Flares parachute		20		5	14	6		45
<u>SIG STORES</u>								
Telephones Italian		1			1		3	5
" British					1	4		5
Switch 10 line UC		1						1
" 6 " "		1				1		2
" Italian 6 line					1		1	2 X

X Only two held, as shown to 26 Aust Inf Bde in Trench and Post Stores Return of 27 Sep 41.

APPX A.

WEAPONS

The following weapons will be LEFT in situ for incoming unit :-

Weapons	HQ Coy	A Coy	B Coy	C Coy	D Coy	B Ech	Total
Bren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vickers			2	2			4
Lewis	2		4		1		7
Mortar 3"				1	1		2
" 81 mm	2			2	2	1	7
" 45 mm			1	1			2
Meda 6.5 mm		1	4	4	7		16
" 8 mm				3	1		4 X
Fiat 8 mm		2		1	1	1	5
Schwarzlose			3	4	4		11
Guns 37 mm A Tk				2			2
" 47 mm "			1				1
Zollothern			2				2
Spandau			2		2		4
Sniper's rifle					1		1
Boys A Tk rifle				1			1
Cups Discharger		1	5	3	3		12

X One declared US by armourer and returned to Ordnance 29 Sep 41.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN	No. of Groups. GR.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
	OUT		

TO

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

GOLD (WAR DIARY)

FROM	BIND	Originator's Number A98	Date 1	In Reply to Number
------	------	----------------------------	-----------	--------------------

Ref	OP	Order	No 13	⊙	HIGH
have	now	agreed	to	change	TIMING
para	9	(a)	to	1900 hrs	⊙
Therefore	all	TIMINGS	para	11	will
be	earlier	by	ONE	HOUR	⊙
Please	amend	and	ACK	⊙	All
informed					

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER.

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNED

A. Marshall

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
Forms C2128/13.	Wt. 36169/1798.	1,000M. pads. 12	/39. B.& S. Ltd.	51-5537.							

T.O.R.

2120

DATE / SEAH

ACTION DIARY APPX 12

SERIAL	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
P 41	0045	C		Sitnor	Bde D/o info
C 12	0145	C		Patrol notification	D/o info
C 14	0145	C		shelling report	" "
C 15	0145	C		Recece patrol notification	" " Bde info.
C 16	0145	C		The following area is strongly held by ITALIANS and GERMANS 39664321 - 39674321 to 39654324 - 39664324 @ there are at least 4 81MM mortars in the area @ point 39674322 has the appearance of being a HQ @ every night 100 or 150 rockets are heard in this area @ not suitable area for shoot	" "
P 41	0150	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/o info
P 42	0200	HUTA	HUTA	Sitnor	D/o info
P 43	0200	ARAB	ARAB	Sitnor	D/o info
V 44	0245	ABCD		SITNOR	D/o info Bde.
V 45	0300	D		Changeover proceeding satisfactorily fire by left Bn causing fire to be returned on D area	
V 46	0345	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/o info.
V 47	0445	B		Boys in new location, no casualties everything satisfactory.	C.O.
V 48	0450	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/o info.
V 49	0500	A		A Recece patrol report	Patrol Report Bk.
V 50	0545	ABCD		SITNOR AC report ME across their area.	Bde D/o info.
I 1/2	0605		CAGE	A boy patrol report	Signs
M 1	"		"	Shelling shut.	"
V 51	0605	D		boy now in res form.	Adj.
V 52		ABC		SITNOR D out of comm	D/o Bde info.
I 1/1	0515		CAGE	Notification C recece patrol.	
V 53		C		SITNOR	Adj.
		A		SITREP AL 2 shells in area ✓ AC 3 " H ✓ BL 26 SM ✓ BR 16 SM ✓	"

1 SEP 41.

ACTION DIARY

SERIAL No	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
V54	0825	Party		4 Shells on Post A ✓	
V55	0840	B.		0800-0830. 23 SM. - BC ✓	D/O
				" " 4 SM - BL ✓	D/O.
V56	0845	BAC		Signal (D toy. line still out)	D/O
V57	0945	BAC.		Signal (" " ")	D/O.
V58	1100	ABC		Signal	
I/3	0830	ARAB		Party which was to remain today at 39714338 now remaining 39744336.	
I/3	1115		ARAB	Act	Sigs.
I/4	1120		CAGE HUTA ARAB	Signal.	Sigs.
V59	1130	Search		'A' out of column. 'C' into ARAB. Lateral lines B+A, A+C out.	D/O.
V60	1230	ABCD		Signal 'C' direct line now in column & 'C' in contact with 'A'	D/O.
V61	1246	ABCD		Signal	D/O.
V62	1345	ABCD		Signal.	D/O.
I/8	1348	CAGE		Setup in air raid several bombs landed near our AP GLOW NO DAMAGE on casualties 0 NO bombs near LOMA on UGERO	W.D. Guyson
V63	1445	ARCA		Signal	D/O
V64	1545	ABCD		Signal	D/O
I/5	1715	A	ABOD NO BEEN	Passward. 1/2. "Tam".	Sigs.
I/6	1730		CAGE LOLA ARAB	Signal	Sigs.
V65	1755	ABCD		Signal	D/O info
I/7	1815	ARAB		ref tonight & strength of out C-V 2130 has been 397432 just arriving 0130 hrs	C adms
I/8	1850		C	ARAB patrol tonight & strength + (as above)	Sigs
V66	1855	ABCD		Signal	D/O info
V67	1945	ABCD		Signal	Re D/O info
I/6	2000	ARAB		Party at 39744336 to be relieved tonight & recce to be made rear of 39114338 & this ref point in future will be referred to as HURK	D/O

1 SEP

ACTION DIARY

SERIAL No	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
V68	2050	A		AL reports 3 ML in area } otherwise AC " 3 SH " } SITNOR	
V69	2050	B		BC " 4 SM at 1950hrs ✓"	
V70	2050	CD		SITNOR	Bde D/O info.
V71	2130	BOXD		Reporting OP personnel returning to BHQ to night for the purpose of manning new site.	
V72	2150	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O info.
V73	2250	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O info.
I21	2320	CAGE		SITREP.	
V74	2353	A		C.O. & party have left UGER A and will possibly return here.	21/C Bde D/O info.
V75	2355	AB CD		SITNOR.	
				<u>2 SEP 41</u>	collated 3 Sep afternoon
C19	0045	C		Notification S.P. night 2/3 SEP	
C20	"	"		Shelling Report	
	"	MOPT		Targets engaged during day 1 SEP.	
V1	0050	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O info.
V2	0138	A		SNIPER active on ^{AC} AC otherwise	
				SITNOR	
V3	0140	BCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O info
V4	0240	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "
V5	0340	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "
V6	0440	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "
V7	0540	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "
V8	0645	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "
B11	0655	B		Sitrep @ km. marking party 399414302. No 399741299 fired upon and made to cease work 0315 hrs @ km. MG. engaged and silenced later: 39864208	10/10.
I21	0736	CAGE		Patrol reports	Info
V9	0945	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O adv.
V10	0945	ABCD		Sitnor	D/O info
V11	0945	A		3 SH in AC area otherwise Sitnor	D/O info ↓
V12	0945	CRD		Sitnor	" " ↓
V13	1025	A		between AC and AZ 3 SH 17 MM	" " ↓
V14	1045	BCD		Sitnor	D/O info

2 SEP 41

ACTION DIARY

Serial	TIME	From	To	E V E N T	A C T I O N
V15	1130		CAGE	Sitnor	b/o info
V16	1130	HUTA ARAB	HUTA ARAB	Sitnor	" "
V17	1145	ABCD		Sitnor	" "
I23	1250	CAGE		FAKO reports enemy shelling nomine all fronts with concentration of fire on area just SOUTH of DERNA RD early afternoon @ fighting patrol SE got close enough to enemy posns to use grenades but forced to withdraw owing by MG mortar fire @ it presumed some casualties inflicted by our grenades @ we suffered three minor casualties @ all informa Saj	
V18	1337	A		Sitnor (except Box A who are not answering)	Saj anos
V19	1340	BCD		Sitnor	b/o info
V20	1445	ABCD		Sitnor	D/O informed
V21	1530	A		Sitnor	D/O advised
V22	1540	BCD		Sitnor	
PS 1	1540	A		Field Work 1/2 Sep @ 40' x crawl trench 18 inches deep 30' x C.T. deepened to 30 inches	b.O.
I2/2	1620		ABCD HA BECH.	P.W. 2/3 "HARRY"	Sigs
V23	1630	C		Sitnor	D/O
V24	1647	B		"	"
V25	1645	A		" 3 M.L. - AL	"
I2/3	1715		CAGE ARAB KOLA	"	Sigs
V26	1740	ABCD		Sitnor	D/O
I2/3	1815	ARAB		Patrol strength 4 out S.H. 2130 hrs No inc. 39774323 and further returning 0230 hrs.	"C" informed D/O
I2/4	1830		C	Notifying Arab patrol	Sigs
V27	1840	A.		A.C. 2 SM otherwise Sitnor	J
V28	1845	B.		BC. 4 SM	
PS		ABCD		Sitnor	
PS 3	1842	A		Patrol 1 offn. 3 ORS out AR 0430 hrs No WATER TOWER returning 0600 hrs.	

collated
3/24
Edward

ACTION DIARY

2 SEP.

SERIAL	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
V29	1930	A.		11 SH - AC otherwise SITNOR.	Bde D/O adv. ✓
V30	1932	CD		Sitnor - B. engaged with arty. shells.	" "
A.43	2015		A	Information required by recce patrol	Log. runner
A41	"		C	" " " " " "	" "
V31	2058	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde informed
V32	2150	B C A D		"	"
I2/5	2200		ABCDHQ	Any boy observing HURRICANE aircraft - drop message please advise this H.Q.	
I27	2230	CAGE		Quiet day 0 single JU87's over at 0945 hrs and 1730hrs 0 bombs near BSD in sea NORTH POINT 0 Enemy arty in EAST fired 48 shells into harbour area this morning 0 No damage all informed	D/O.
V33	2240	ABCD	CAGE	SITNOR	Bde D/O infd.
	2300	B		Bty harassing fire opened to time.	
	2304			RNF " " " "	
	2310			Arty " " " "	
	2315	C		Shelling Report	Shelling Bk.
V34	2330	D		20 S 12 M ^{fell between} 2305/2317	D/O.
				32 S total shelling 2 SEP excluding 2305/2317	
V35	2340	D		About 2300 hrs a plane flying ^{figures} NORTH fired 1 white flare approx 1 mile NORTH BHQ. Thinks one of our planes: SITNOR	Bde D/O infd.
V36	2345	A		3 ML around AL otherwise SITNOR.	✓
V37	2350	C, B		10 SH " " " "	
V38	2359	B		Thy M.G. shelling recd 2300-2326 0 BL 30MM 10SM BC, 18MM 7SM BR 36 MM 17 SM BA 30MM 0 Approx 60 enemy observed at 399 & 4304 in well sand bagged diggings & sangars, showing considerable movement; when they moved they moved quickly.	✓ collated 3 sep Johman
3 SEPT. 41					
I3/1	0010	UGER	CAGE ARAB	A recce patrol C serum	logs
V39	0035	A		AC report 5 shells in area otherwise SITNOR	Bde D/O
V40	0050	BCD		SITNOR	infd.
V41	0140	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd.
B12	0145	B		B by patrol report NMS/H.	Adj.

3 SEP 41

ACTION DIARY

SERIAL	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
V42	0245	A		AR 3 sm in area otherwise sitnor	} D/O Bde D/O info Bde D/O info
V43	0245	BCD		Sitnor	
V44	0245	ABCD		Sitnor	
V45	0435	C		reporting enemy putting down front of F area ST including Mortar fire	} D/O info D/O info Bde D/O info
V46	0437	A		AC report some blasting area right of WATER Tower	
V47	0445	ABCD		other than above sitnor AC reported further blasting above very heavy bearing 2DY 2SY = 235° 205°	
V48	0535	A		AC report continuous blasting on escapement. There have been 6 blasts since last report same area AL + AR report heavy MG fire otherwise sitnor	} Bde D/O info D/O info Bde D/O info
V49	0545	BCD		Sitnor	
V50	0630	A		AC 7dy in 6 fire otherwise sitnor	
V51	0645	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O info
V52	0740	B		BC 8 sm BH 17 sm BL 10 sm	D/O adoc
V53	0745	F, BOX		O.P. opened 0700. 6 between 0725 0730 5 sm on O.P. job	
V54	0745	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O info
V55	0800	BHQ		3 sm (1 Dud) One minor casualty	"
V56	0845	ABCD		Sitnor	
V57	1004	ABCD		Sitnor	
V58	1050	A		Sitnor cannot raise BOXA.	
V59	1053	BCD		Sitnor	
V60	1148	ABCD		Sitnor	
V61	1155		CAGE	Sitnor	Bde D/O info
I29	1240	CAGE		Sitrep from Fake Fake report enemy shelling western FDLS normal slightly above normal EAST ☉ Hy concentrated arty fire in southern sector directed at new OPs ☉ Ground patrols made no contacts 2148 hrs to 2359 hrs 20 EA dropped bombs in SE Harbour and WEST and NW Town possibly mines in	

DATE

3 SEP 41

ACTION

DIARY

SERIAL	TIME	FRDM	TO.	EVENT	ACTION
I29	1240			harbour but no confirmation yet Small quantity 18 pdr amm destroyed 1 OR killed 0424 to 0445 hrs HL attack with bombs SW Harbour No damage all informed	To adpt. & CO.
V61	1252	ABCD		Sitnor	
V62	1250	Box A		M.G. located by blast dust at following refs: 39734312 39734313 39734314 bearings from Box A respectively 232° 236° 237°	CO informed
V62	1310	Arty		Requested to register "Three Pimple" area refs 3973/5 x 4310/3 Cued also area where works in progress refs: 3976/9 x 4308/4310	Area already registered Verbal to Arty LD.
V63	1335	Box A		M.G. firing on bearing 236° but no distance of range obtained	ld. infd.
V63	1335	A		M.G. fire on AC. 2 bursts on bearing of 207°	
V64	1355	Alceap		Sitnor.	CO infd.
V65	1445	ABCD		SITNOR	CO infd.
V66	1527	ABCD		Sitnor.	
I3/1	1600			P.W. 3/9 SER. HENRY.	Sigs
V67	1650	ABCD		SITNOR.	
V68	1715	ARAB	90 LD	2 parties out of SV strength to area ³⁹⁷⁴³² STERDZ 1st party out 2100 m 2350 2nd out 0100 in 0400	UGER A.C.
V69	1730	ARAB	CAGE	SITNOR	D/O Bde.
V70	1742	A		AR 12 SM } otherwise SITNOR AC 9 SH }	
I3/2	1805	r	AC	Abolishing ARAB patrols.	Sigs
V70	1845		ARAB	Drawing attention to fact that ARAB patrols will cross fire on Z area.	
V72	1850	B		BC 5 SM otherwise SITNOR	
		A		AR 8 SM } otherwise SITNOR AC 3 MM }	

5 SEP 41

ACTION DIARY

SERIAL NO	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
V 73	1935	ABCS		Situa	Bde D/O info
V 74	2010			1 Corp arty regt decided to register 'X' in preparation for harassing plan 0230 hrs SEP 4 @ when round fell 20 enemy appears so target with one round gun for UGERC reported effective	Summary Bde D/O info
V 75	2042	ABCD		Situa	Bde D/O info
V 76	2145	ABCS		Situa	Bde D/O info
I 1/3	2210	ABCD	CAGE ARRA LOLA	"	"
V 77	2256	ABCD		"	" " "
	2255	B		Report from mortars attached to 'B' Coy - Nil	To Collection file
V 78	2355	ABCS		Situa	Bde D/O info
I 37	2357	CAGE		FAKO report @ 1000 hrs one JU 57 dropped bombs SW harbour but no damage @ 1050 hrs 10 large EA possibly JU 52 observed flying WEST to EAST along EL ADEM El campment @ 1110 hrs enemy gun in EAST fired 10 rounds near harbour boom doing no damage @ 1100 hrs one off killed two wounded as result machine gunning attacks on perimeter posts R39 R41 by two ME 109 @ 1200 hrs fire reported ED DUDA area thought caused by own bombs all inform	collated Schmitt Bde

4 SEP 41

C 27					
C 27	0000	C		shelling report	D/O course
C 26	0050	C		Patrol advised	"
V 79	0045	ABCD		Situa	Bde D/O info
V 80	0140	ABCD		Situa	" " "
V 81	0145	LOLA ARRA B		Situa	D/O info
V 82	0230	B		report few burst MG fire also 2 snipers firing on them	b0 imp

4 SEP 41 ACTION DIARY

SERIAL	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
V83	0240	A		1 MG firing on AC from vicinity Water Tower	60 inf
V84	0243	All coys		Sitnor c report all going fine.	60 inf.
V85	0308		CAGE	Sitnor	Bde D/O Inf
V86	0315	F Box		NIL report No enemy guns or MG posn located.	D/O inf
V87	0335	A		Sitrep concerning X area Ask. AR. 8 MG fire in reply AC MG opened up in sanger on bearing 207. but very quickly silenced. also MG vicinity Water Tower firing AL. Sitnor Otherwise sitnor.	D/O inf
V88	0342	BCD		Sitnor	
V89	0350		CAGE	Sitnor	Bde D/O inf
V90	0440	All coys		Sitnor	
V91	0450		CAGE	Sitnor	Bde D/O inf
V92	0535	A		One explosion & One Very light on left of Water Tower from AC Otherwise sitnor.	D/O inf
V93	0550	All coys		Sitnor	
V94	0550		CAGE	Sitnor	Bde D/O inf
V95	0630	B		0238 6 fixed lines and Spandan opened up after fixed lines finished. Spandan was engaged with 4 guns and silenced. <i>Summary</i> INCO & 2 ORS out BL 0430 South 40° then WEST 50° report voices heard no movement seen. Patrol report.	D/O inf
V96	0650	All coys		Sitnor	
V97	0655		CAGE	Sitnor	Bde D/O inf
I4/1	0710		CAGE	Patrol reports	Segs
V98	0745	BOXA		0705 1 MT moved along ridge 3950 4315 to 3963 4311 Several 8 on different occasions also moved along ridge	<i>Collect</i>

ACTION DIARY

A SEP 41

SERIAL	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
V98	0745	AC		IMT on escarpment WEST of AC considerable movement 0710	
V99	0759	DABC		Sitnor	
V100	0810		CAGE	V98 message otherwise Sitnor	Bde D/O inf
V101	0850	Allcops		Sitnor	
V102	1000	.		SITNOR CR off the line.	
V103	1040	A		1015hr 2MT. moved along ridge from 39639311 to 39504315. otherwise SITNOR	CAGE
V104	1045	BCD		SITNOR CR now on line	
B13	1055	B		WENBORN reports position to be approx (A44ARABH) 39934306 but will give full details to-night.	
V105	1135		CAGE	V103 otherwise SITNOR	Highs
V106	1145	ABCD		Sitnor	D/O info
V107	1340	ABCD		SITNOR	
T35	1345	CAGE		FAKO report three guns in SW fired salvoes each three shells at 2300hr and 0230 hr but no damage @ Patriots did NOT contact enemy all informed	Adjt.
V108	1445	ABCD		Sitnor	D/O info
I4/2	1450		ABC	one copy MTP 45 titled titled 'bomb piece' required by FAKO please advise if copy available	High
I4/3	1450		ABCD HQ	P W	High
V109	1550	ABCD		Sitnor	D/O info
V11	1555	A		Ref I 4/2 No copy available	GOLD SPT
C25	1555	C		Ref I 4/2 OK will send it in tonight	
V14	1610	B		Ref I 4/2 MTP 45 NOT available but have one at B's ch somewhere	
V110	1645	ABCD		Sitnor	D/O info
V111	1650	Z Box		Map ref Z Box 39924325 Map ref O. POLE 39994327	GOLD area
O27	1715	CAGE		Uger will erect and maintain OP posts at 39969329 and 40194317 for use of UGER BONE GLOW	Prv. bmd.
V112	1730		CAGE	Sitnor	D/O info

LOLA
ARAB

[Handwritten signature]

ACTION DIARY

DATE 4 SEP 41

Serial	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
113	1835	A/Coy		25H in AL area Otherwise Sitnor.	✓
114	1845	ABCD		Sitnor	D/o info
115	1950	A		AC 25M in area	✓ No info
116	1950	Box A		(Box) 1914 hrs 1E in range 39894309	
117	1952	BCD		Sitnor	Bde D/o info
V118	2038	A		AC 5SH otherwise Sitnor	✓ Bde D/o info
V119	2022	BCD		Sitnor	informed
V120	2145	Allcops		Sitnor	
V121	2150		CAGE	Sitnor	Bde D/o info
B15	2225	B		UGER B. mortars engaged target 39944305 at 1845hrs 30 rds. ☉ Results unknown but bombs observed to fall in target area.	Bde D/o info.
V122	2240	Allcops		Sitnor	Bde D/o info.
T37	2307	CAGE		YAKO reports HL bombing by single Ju 88 1200 hrs 1740 hrs ☉ Bombs NORTH DERNARD. near BLUE LINE and others just WEST harbour ☉ Latter plane reported to have letter D on each wing between fuselage and black cross ☉ Plane possibly Ju 52 seen flying westward along ELADEM escarpment 1025 hrs and returning 1745 hrs ground situation quiet ☉ All informed.	CO info.
C30	2320	C		Shelling report. 24MM. 20ML. 67 SL. Total for 24 hrs to 2100 hrs 4 Sep	
V123	2345	Allcops		Sitnor	
V124	2350		CAGE	Sitnor	Bde D/o info.
V125	0030	D		at 1830 hrs 45M BH DR - 20 SM DL - 75M. Total 31 0500 to 0030 hrs	
V126	0044	A		Slight M.G. fire on AC - Sitnor	
V127	0045	BCD		Sitnor	Bde D/o info.
V128	0130	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/o info.
V129	0220		LOLA ARAB	Sitnor	

C. J. [Signature]

5 SEP

ACTION DIARY

SERIAL	TIME	FROM	TO	E V E N T	ACTION
V130	0245	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O info.
V131	0343	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O info.
V132	"	A		A reports 2 SH in A area otherwise SITNOR	Bde D/O info.
V133	0442	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O info.
V134	0550	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O info.
M5	0600		CAGE	Shelling report to 0500 hrs 5 sep	Sigs.
V135	0603	C		CC little movement fwd of post S7 dispersed by Bren fire 0600 hrs	D/O info. Bde D/O info.
V136	0635	AC		All LP report NMS	Bde info.
V137	0655	ABCD		SITNOR	
V138	0656	B		Patrol INCO. 20R out BL 0230 hrs went SOUTH 50X thence WEST 75X in BL 0400 hrs NMS but voices heard also sounds of digging also blasting from several directions about 1000X out LP report NMS but sounds of digging and wheelbarrow heard.	Bde advised
T5/1	0705		CAGE	Patrol & LP reports and SITREP	Sigs.
V139	0743	BOX A		0742 2 men seen around THREE PIMPRES 0 0719 - 0740 MG firing ^{from} sangar at 39747312	D/O info.
V140	0745	ABCD		SITNOR	D/O info. <i>R. Hanson</i>
V141	0837	BOX A		Aperture for observation on MG made in sangar at 39894309 last night. A boy SITNOR	
V142	0842	BCD		SITNOR	
V143	0950	ABCD		Sitnor	D/O info
I5/2	1100		BOTA	BELGASSEM information at at 14 JULY	per L/O
V144	1100	ABCD		Sitnor	D/O info
V145	1135	ARAB LOLA	CAGE ARAB LOLA	Sitnor	Bde D/O info
V146	1155	ABCD		Sitnor	D/O info
030	1525	CAGE		Please inform all units of difference between MINES A.P. and BOOBY TRAPS and ensure that the latter term is used in reports only when genuine booby traps are encountered	To All

filed

5 AUG 41

ACTION DIARY

No	TIME	FROM	TO	E V E N T	ACTION
I 40	1240	CAGE		FAKU sige report quiet night no bomb or mortar fired make contact or shelling of FDLs slight in WEST and SOUTH normal in EAST all informed	To ADJ.
V 147	1345	CRDA		Sitnor except AS temporarily out of L/T	D/O imfd
V 148	1452	A		AC out of communication otherwise sitnor	
V 149	1452	BCD		Sitnor	
V 150	1550	ABCD		Sitnor	
I 5/3	1600	Allcops		PW "Stephen"	Sigs
V 151	1656	Allcops		Sitnor	
V 152	1730	CAGE		Sitnor	Gold base imfd
V 153	1750	Allcops		Sitnor	
V 154	1800	LOLA		Report Light Shelling at approx 1700 hrs.	
V 155	1800	ARAB		Sitnor	
V 156	1935	GLOW		Arty report that 40 shells fell on Pole 4015 4317.	
V 157	1940	A		AC 2 SH AR 11 MM Otherwise sitnor	
	1910			Arty re-registered DFL task 300 x fwd of right pl of left fwd Coy	
V 158	1945	B		Bl 18 M.S. BC 7 M.H. Otherwise sitnor	
V 159	1950	B		Inform Co. that L area is still the best which can be suggested.	
V 160	1955	Allcops		Sitnor	C. informed
V 161	2010	B		Mortar shoot at 1745 hrs Enemy posn 3997 4301 engaged with 20 x 10lb bombs. 1 Sagar completely demolished another roof blown off 4 bombs fell in. Crawl trenches, etc effectively covering target area	Bde D/O imfd C. informed

Collated
Submitted

5 SEP.

SERIAL NO	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
V162	2045	B.		BR. 5 SM 2010 hrs otherwise B.C. 2 SM 2010 hrs SITNOR	
V163	2046	ACD		SITNOR	D/O CAEE info.
P.S4	2145	A		Square for harassing fire 39814308 39854308 39814306 39854306 ©	
V164	2158	ABCD		SITNOR	Bole D/O info.
-	2230	B		Revised fire plan	C.O.
V165	2248	ABCD		SITNOR	Bole D/O info.
I42	2335	CAEF		1 JU 88 on rice 1115 hrs 01715 hrs 1 JU 88 dropped 5 HE bombs on escarpment SW of harbour © 1135 hrs enemy guns in EAST shelled harbour © 11 shells including 5 duds © 1 shell set off small dump miller grenades which burst petrol pipe however no damage resulted © all informed.	D/O info.
V165	2345	A		AC report enemy movement on escarpment carrying what appeared to be timber otherwise SITNOR. above movement seen	D/O info
V166	2346	BCD		SITNOR	Bole D/O info.
-	2350	MIR DET.		Targets engaged by 81 mm mortar 5 SEP.	
-	2350	C		Shelling report	
-	2350	C		L.P.s night 6/7 Sep.	
-	2350	C		Harassing fire was carried out on M.C. position in vicinity of Post S.7 from 0145 hrs to 0345 hrs. It is impossible to state what results were achieved but during daylight today very little fire was seen to come from these positions.	Adjt.
V167	2355	A		Bearing taken on tracer fire — M19 to M21 169°	
V168					

collected
about

6 SEP

ACTION DIARY

K.B.

SERIAL No	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION.
V1	0042	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O. infd.
V2	0136	C		CL reports 2 wkg parties on bearing 180° & 190° due EAST of ^N TOWER. Blasting heard and considerable movement evident. otherwise SITNOR.	D/O infd. C/O "
V3	0150	ABD		SITNOR AR off the line.	Rde D/O infd.
V4	0210		LOLA	SITNOR Enemy put over approx 30 shells 0207hrs now quiet.	D/O infd.
V5	0215		ARAB	SITNOR on ARAB front.	D/O infd.
V6	0345	A		AC report 4 blasting shots on map	Bde D/O info
V7	0345	BCD		Sitnor	"
V8	0340	ABCD		Sitnor	"
V9	0400	C		Our shoot commences	D/O info
V10	0415			" " Completed	"
V11	0430	C		Sitnor reported shoot as requested	"
V12	0445	ABCD		Sitnor	"
				maximise shoot as per plan	Bde D/O info
I 6/1	0545		CAGE	Patrol across	DRLS
V13	0545		CAGE	Shelling report	DRLS
V14	0550	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O info
V15	0610	ABCA		Sitnor	Bde D/O info
V16	0750	ABCA		Sitnor	Bde D/O info
V17	0830	B		LPs report blasting along whole front nearest blasting approx 300' heaviest blasting at approx 39854303.	D/O info
V18	0857	Allcoys		Sitnor	"
I 6/2	0928		Allcoys Beck	One Maryland will be flying low over this sector shortly.	Sigs
V19	0940	CAGE		Advising re aircraft flying over this sector.	Fwd to all coys Beck.
V20	0946	Allcoys		Sitnor	"
V21	1043	Allcoys		Sitnor	"
V22	1130		CAGE	Sitnor	Bde info
			ARAB	Sitnor	"
			LOLA	Sitnor	"
I 45	1152	CAGE		FAKO report quiet night with no bombing. Enemy shelling has decreased WESTERN sector. Slight increase EASTERN sector.	"

SEP. 6

ACTION DIARY

collated
K.B.

TRIAL	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
L45	1152	CAGE		and NORMAL in SOUTH. ☉ No patrols made contact all informed	ctdy
V23	1155	All coys		Sitnor	
V24	1243	All coys		Sitnor	
V25	1345	"		SITNOR	D/o. info.
V26	1355			20SM around AZ area	Adj't
V27	1443	"		SITNOR	No action
V28	1543	"		SITNOR	"
L48	1553	LOLA		This unit will fire red vereys tonight 6 Sep as follows 2 at 2300hrs 2 at 2330hrs 2 at 2359 hrs from different points along our front	Adj't
V43	1600			ABCDHQ BECH. P/W 6/7 Sep KENETH	Sign
V49	1620	C		80 x 2 inch from S7 enemy M.A.S. operating against CG in Sanger. C.C. using 1000 rifle obtained direct hit blowing something up	C. inf.
V50	1646	ABCD		Sitnor	
V51	1745			All Para. SITNOR. ARAB report Sitnor	
V52	1746	ABCD		Sitnor	
V53	1755			Pde V49 otherwise sitnor	Verbal to Int Sec.
V54	1755			Justm Sitnor & Sitnor received.	
V55	1840	B		Ref ECC6RHCC 39954299 several Sangers occupied engaged with 12 x 10 lb Bombs LOLA requested from Mortar detachment. NOT to fire & all bombs fell in target area Stretchers bearers advanced under Red Cross flag & our fire then withheld. If Red Cross Amb arrives are NOT engage it. 3 Sangers completely demolished. Enemy Amb seen fwd of B Lay	art'y likewise.
V56	1858	Of. OMA			
V57	1900	B		Advicing our art'y shelling enemy ambulance up to 12 rds fell in area reported in V54.	

DATE 6 SEP

ACTION DIARY *collated*

RIAL	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
V58	1935	A		AC reports 2 SM - AR - 11 SM otherwise situon.	
V59	1955			Bde Sitrep @ At 1840 hrs an enemy post at 3995 4299 was engaged with 12 x 10lb mortar bombs all of which fell in target area @ 3 saungars completely demolished @ stretchers bearers approached under Red Cross flag & assisted 2 walking wounded & carrying a third on stretcher @ Casualties taken to 3993 4299 @ Enemy Ambulance marked with Red Cross & flying Red Cross flag was in error engaged with 12 rds gunfire from Arty support on our left. We instructed our tps Not to fire and asked 2/48 Bn on left to do likewise & also to instruct their supporting Arty to stop firing. Night shelling over Bn area otherwise situon.	Verbal to D/O.
V60	1955	BCDA		Situon	Bde D/O info
V61	2055	ARCS		Situon	"
V62	2120	3 A/TX Regt		50 shells directed at OP Bde left - inflicted 3 Casualties on 3 A/TX Regt.	Bde area
V63	2150	ARCS		Situon	Bde D/O info
V64	2150	CAGE		Situon (inc V62)	" " "
B15	1917	B		stretchers bearers appeared from 3993 4299 went to 3995 4299 @ assisting two walking wounded and carrying one wounded interned to 3993 4299 carrying RED CROSS flag all the way @ 2 bearing shiny steel helmets rest hatless @ ALL GERMAN	Bde D/O info

6 SEP 41

ACTION DIARY

Bellamy
R.S.

No	Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
165	2205	AAA B		one MT approached OP, she arched flasks torch 3 times then went on to higher ground and flasks torch again 3 times Situation	D/O info Bde D/O info
166	2245	ABCD		11 SM on Right Pale at 1930 hrs 2 SM " " " " 1945 "	Shelling report
167	2325	C		reporting enemy working party at 3980 4308	D/O info
149	2205	CAGE		five single JU 52s escorted by one to three fighters observed flying along EL ADEM escarpment during day & harbour town area shelled intermittently from 1135 hrs to 1815 hrs & many close misses harbour installations but only material damage one MT destroyed & 1745 hrs single JU 88 dropped bombs SW harbour & another JU 88 made success 1730 hrs & mortars bombarded enemy disposition MEDAUVAR sector demolishing three saucers & at least three casualties evacuated by enemy S.B. under red cross flag &	D/O info
168	2330	C	SILVER	requesting GOLD to map him morning 7 Aug 41 Coy dispositions	D/O info
169	2345	AAAA		Silver	Bde D/O info
170	2355	C		Patrol notification	" "
171	"	C		shelling report	" "
<u>7 SEP 41</u>					
172	0045			Silver	Bde D/O info
173	0055	Ref V62		(RP) Petcher reports was only able to acquire intercept one MT on route back from our right flank. This was British Army MT who negotiated route approx 0400 hrs. Coy two trucks apparently in before he was able to intercept.	D/O info

7 SEP 41

ACTION DIARY

L.P.

No	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
I 7/1	0055		PAHO	YARR injured 6 Sep near ADS 0 plane wanted to collect corpse 7 Sep	Sitnor
V 3	0150	ABCJ		Sitnor	3 hrs 40 minutes Bde D/O imfd
V 4	0240	All copy		Sitnor	Bde D/O imfd
V 5	0332	A		AR report 5 MM in area otherwise Sitnor	Adj imfd
V 6	0345	BCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O imfd
V 7	0435	A		AC reports 4 MM in area otherwise Sitnor	Adj imfd
V 8	0440	BCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O imfd
V 9	0547	All copy		Sitnor	Bde D/O imfd
V 10	0643	All copy		Sitnor	Bde D/O imfd
V 11	0710	ACB		C LPS NMSH A LPS NMSH B LPS NMS but blasting and Voices heard	Bde imfd in I 7/2
I 7/2	0715		CAGE	Patrol reports	
V 12	0740		ARAB LOLA	Sitnor Report Normal Shellings also blasting heard	Adj imfd
V 13	0745	All copy		Sitnor	" "
V 14	0850	All copy		Sitnor	Adj imfd
V 15	0945	"		SITNOR	
	1025		Bde	Unkown number of US large thr carrying planes reported over area this morning & important to notify them off immediately Any planes observed advising number and direction.	Repeated to Observing Post + ABCJ H & Coy
V 16	1125	C		1120 hrs planes heard in the clouds travelling WEST from CH.	Bde imfd
V 17	1126	B		Large number of unidentified planes flying very high direction NW. 1120 hrs.	Bde imfd
V 18	1126		CAGE	Reports V 16, V 17, otherwise SITNOR	
V 19	1133	D		1120 hrs sound of number of planes travelling WEST	

7 SEP

ACTION DIARY

Ludlow
RB

SERIAL No	TIME	FROM	To	EVENT	ACTION
V20	1145	All boys		SITNOR	Bde info.
	1200	B.H.Q.		1 Recon plane believed HS 126 flying around WESTERN perimeter.	Bde info.
	1215	BHQ.		2 planes flew over BHQ flying WEST	Bde info.
V21	1300	All Coys		believed single engine.	
				SITNOR	
V22	1304	Box A		103 hrs 4 large type flying NORTH over 7 another one behind them	haul-rani Box A to query this message.
				T00 1300 TH1 1305	
V23	1345	BCDA		SITNOR AR off line	
V24	1445	ARCA		except AC not in communication	D/O info
V25	1450	CAGE		FAKO report enemy shell ing FDLs showed marked increase WEST slight increase SOUTH and NE of fighter patrols SE forces to withdraw by night no fire of ground situation quiet of sea separate bombing attacks by small formation enemy aircraft of practically all of 72 bombs fell on NORTH point or SOUTH of the harbour small quantity of 5.7 AA ammo destroyed and 5 ors killed 0935 hrs of OP reported unidentified plane crashed into sea great distance out from coast	D/O info
V26	1452	A		line to AC now OK - Situa	"
V27	1550	ABCD		Situa	"
V28	1645	ABCD		Situa	"
V29	1752	ACD		Situa 'B' not answering	D/O info
V30	1815	B		now Situa	"
V31	1850	ABCD		Situa	"
V32	1945	ABCD		pass word 'Sentry'	Sea
		B		BR 6 SM 5 MM	
				BL 10 SM 13 MM	D/O info
V33	1945	A		AZ 14 SM	"
V34	1945	ABCD		Situa	Bde D/O info
B17	1955	B		Mortar shoot on area 3992 4303 Direct hit on one sangar eight bombs covered remainder of sangar. damage unknown	

7 SEP 41

ACTION DIARY

Collated
R.P.

No	TIME	FROM	TO	E V E N T	ACTION
V35	2045	CBA		Sitnor	
V36	2050		CAGE	Advising B mortar shoot also sitnor	Bde D/O infd.
V37	2145	B		BC 25 SM and MM	
		CAD		Sitnor	Bde D/O infd
V38	2240	ABCD		Sitnor	Adj infd
				CR out of communication.	
V39	2255		CAGE	Advising V38	Bde D/O infd
I54	2330	CAGE		Take report enemy arty in EAST shelled harbour 1740 hrs Ⓞ Shells on 4 Jetty and in harbour but damage negligent Ⓞ Single JU88's dropped bombs SW of harbour and near Italian AAD. Ⓞ considerable movement aircraft observed along El Aden escarpment during day Ⓞ Ground situation quiet.	To Adj D/O infd
V40	2340	A		AL reports 4/5 E dispersed by Bren fire range of 500'	
		BCD		Sitnor CR still out of comm Sigs laying new wire	Bde D/O infd
— 8 SEP 41 —					
V41	0015	C		CR in communication again	Bde D/O infd
V42	0040	All coys		Sitnor	Bde D/O infd
V43	0145	All coys		Sitnor	Bde D/O infd
V44	0249	ABDC		SITNOR Harassing task completed to timetable.	Bde D/O infd
C40	0250	C		Shelling Report.	Shelling Bk.
C39	0250	C		Patrol Notification	Patrol Notifications
	0250	A		Mortar Lit. Report 7/9.	File.
V45	0343	ABCD		AC 6 SH in area AR off the line Harassing shoot carried out to time: approx 6 enemy shells passed over in reply to our arty.	Bde D/O infd.
V46	0445	ABCD		SITNOR AR still off the line	Bde D/O infd.
V47	0545	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd.
V48	0640	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd.
	0640		CAGE	Shelling Report - per D/R	Sigs

DATE 8 SEP

ACTION DIARY ^{bellated}
RB

IRW	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
V49	0743	ARCD		SITNOR	
	0750		CAGE	Patrol Reports	
V50	0840	ARCD		Sitnor less 2 pl A Coy not yet answering 4/T	D/O info
V51	0850			AC & AR off the line.	
V52	0925	A		AR now contacted	"
V51	0935		A	resection night 7/8 places AR. H A S E E H 7 E AC H A A W E H 7 3 A L H A A T Y W E H 7 7 W W @ above distance between AR and AL	low
V52	0935		C	resection night 7/8. places AR. H A S E E H 7 E @ above corrected posn C L	low
V53	0950	ABCD		Sitnor	
V54	1045	ABCD		Sitnor (ecc AR line out of order)	To info
V55	1130	CAGE →		Sitnor	Pde D/O info
V56	1130	ARAB LOLA	ARAB LOLA	Sitnor	Pde D/O info
V57	1145	ABCD		Sitnor	To info
V58	1245	ARCD		Sitnor	" "
V59	1345	ABCD		Sitnor	" "
V60	1445	All coys		Sitnor AR out of communication	" "
8/3	1530	ABCD HQ Bde		P.W. 8/9 SEP. ERROL.	Sigs
V61	1543	All coys		Sitnor	
8/4	1625		BONE	Trace and Tables DF Ashes 4 SEP is ack.	
V62	1645	All coys		Sitnor.	
V63	1730		CAGE ARAB LOLA	Sitnor Sitnor	Bde infd Adj infd.
V64	1746	B		BL 7 MM BC 3 MM BR 9 MM ✓ BH 11 SM and a number of enemy shells fell in his own lines. Mortar Bombs fired by enemy also fell nearer to his FDLs than ours	patrol 2000 hrs. CO infd
V65	1749	All coys		Sitnor	

DATE 8 SEP

ACTION DIARY *collated KH*

SERIAL	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
322	1750	B		Mortar shoot @ 1540 hrs 24 bombs on line of Sangar. 3994 4299 A0 3994 4300 @ several direct hits others within 20 yds @ 14 bombs on Sangar. 3992 4303 @ 3 direct others within 10 yds	Co infd sitrep 2000 hrs
V 66	1840	B		BL 10 ML 2 SL otherwise sitnor	✓ sitrep 2000 hrs
V 46	1915	C	ACD	Brewery 201 deg @ AR 85 degrees 30 mins sitnor	Mapping Acc.
V 67	1950	BCD			
V 68	2000		CAGE	SITNOR	A bay sitrep NOT yet received. Bde D/O
	2020	A		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd.
V 69	2045	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd.
V 70	2145	ABCD		SITNOR AR off the line	Bde D/O infd.
	2220	LIND of HUTA		Requesting guide ^{from our left bay} to meet them at LIND of LOLA.	Advised B bay
	2225	LIND of HUTA		Advising USER left fwd bay has sent a guide to LOLA right fwd bay (message relayed by LOLA switch owing to poor reception)	Adjt.
	2245	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd.
	2245	ARAB		SITNOR ARAB advises SITNOR	D/O infd.
	2255	LOLA		SITNOR LOLA " "	D/O infd.
	2335	ACB		Advising arrival of HUTA parties in our line	Adjt.
	2339	C		Advising arrival of our party (etc)	
	2330			Harassing fire commenced on time Only opened fire on time	
	2350	ABCD		SITNOR	D/O infd.
				<u>9 SEP. 41.</u>	
	0030	-	-	25 S.M. BHQ Area	✓ sitrep 0030
V.I.	0010	A		AMM in AC area & otherwise SITNOR 7 HSM on AL area	✓ sitrep Recorded.
	0010	C		Melting Report & Patrol Identification	
	0040	CAGE		FAKO report HL bombing attack by single JU 88 1755 hrs WEST Bomber approx area 914928. Recd flights by JU 88 at 1310 hrs and 040 at 1720 hrs	

9-SEP.

ACTION DIARY.

SERIAL No	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
				no material damage from any to days raids but 200 tons water lost as result raid night 7/8 photo recce reveals 2 A/A and 2 Hvy. guns 12964348 also 4 Hvy guns 42004209. photos 1800hrs 7 SEP show 52 camouflaged vehs with turrets probably AFVs area 5 miles S.W. ACROMA. No sign TK tracks or diggings visible but foot tracks in front vehicles. Ground situation normal.	To Adjts.
V2	0047	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd.
V3	0145	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd.
V4	0245	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O infd.
V5	0345	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "
V6	0445	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "
V7	0545	ABCD		"	" " "
I 9/1	0600		CAGE	patrol report	DPIS
	0600		CAGE	quelling " 0500 Sep - 0500 9 Sep	" "
V8	0645	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O infd.
V9	0745	ABCD		Sitnor	" "
V10	0845	All cop		Sitnor	
V11	0953	All cop		Sitnor	
	1048	All cop		Sitnor	
V13	1130		CAGE	Sitnor	Bde D/O infd
			ARAB	Sitnor	
			LOLA	Sitnor	Adj infd.
V14	1145	All cop		Sitnor	"
V15	1245	ABCD		Sitnor	"
V16	1345	All cop		Sitnor	"
V17	1445	ABCD		SITNOR	"
V18	1543	ABCD		454 in AC area otherwise SITNOR	"
V19	1645	ABCD		SITNOR	"
L52	1647	LOLA		LOLA will fire 2 red mags at 0500 - 10 Sept @ will DOME report on observation @ dual for 50F.	
I 9/2	1725		CAGE ARAB LOLA	Sitnor	Sigs
I 9/3	1727		ABCD NR, BECA	P.W. "George"	Sigs
V20	1745	ABCD		Sitnor	Adjts.
V21	1830	1/48		Their right sec under fire from rear @ asking us to check fire from our left	B Coy H advised

DATE 9 SEP 41 ACTION DIARY

SERIAL	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
V1	2030	UGER		Adv pty arrived at HuTa BHQ 40324315	
V2	2100			Set up BHQ at 2100 hrs 4032 4315	
V3	2140	HQ		HQ boy report "Herald"	D/o imfd
I4	2219	CAGE		Sit rep I 41	D/o imfd
V4				== 10 SEP 41 ==	
V4	0155	D		Reporting "Herald"	D/o imfd
V5	0230	B		Adv pty testing sig wire	
V6	0230	HUTA		Uger Silver & pty left HuTa area	
V7	0245	B		Reporting "Herald"	D/o imfd.

9 SEP.

ACTION DIARY

TRIAL	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
V22	1843	A		AC reports 45H German situation	adjt.
V23	1855	CD		SITNOR	"
V24	1935	A		AC 25H. AR reports GERMAN plane flew WEST. 3 engines 2 rudders German Sitnor	"
V25	1845 1920	BHQ		50 shells MED BHQ area.	Adjt
V26	2045	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/o infd.
V27	2147	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/o infd.
V28	2200	ARAB		Reporting SITNOR ARAB reports SITNOR.	Adjt infd.
V29	2205	KOLA		" " KOLA " "	" "
V30	2240	ABCD		SITNOR	BOE D/o infd
V60	2308	CAGE		Raids by single JU 88 at 0906 hrs and 1820hrs @ Bombs on ITALIAN AAD and SIDI MANAMUD @ Only damage two small dumps ITALIAN awn destroyed latter area @ Tac R 0930hrs observed continuous canopy of low density stretchings from T MIMI to ACREMA and moving WEST @ Ground situation quiet	Repeated to ABCD.
V31	2337	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/o adv.
V32	0057	ABCD		Sitnor 10 SEP 41	" " "
V33	0120	BD		Relief complete - moving to rear posns on Blue line	
V34	0145	A		Relief complete - moving to Blue line posns.	
V35	0150	C		Sitnor. Relief almost complete	Bde D/o
V36	0155	Bde		Relief completed to 75% - Sitnor	Relief 60%
V37	0214	C		Relief complete - now moving to Blue line	Camp
V38	0218			BHQ. now leaving for rear posns.	
V39	0300			Arrived at BHQ on Blue line ref. 40324315.	
V40	0400	CAGE		Advancing Sitnor also 2 boys D and B completed relief at Blue line.	Bde D/o infd
V41	0420	All coys		completion of relief by all coys at Blue line posns.	
V42	0425	CAGE		Herald and Sitnor	Bde D/o infd

10 SEP 41

ACTION DIARY

No	TIME	FROM	To	EVENT	ACTION
V43	0445	ALL CO's		Sitcom	Bde D/o info
V44	0545	"		"	"
V45	0645	"		"	"
V46	0745	"		"	"
V47	0845	"		"	D/o info
V48	0950	ACD		Sitcom (unable to raise B)	"
V49	1150	A.B.C.D.		"	Bde adv.
I67	1345	GAGE		FAKO reports patrols made several contacts with enemy but only brief fire fights ensued. We had 1,000 killed but unable to estimate casualties inflicted on us. Almost continual air raids 2330 to 0644 hrs. Approx 100 bombs fell ORONANGE, NORTH PT, South Show, CRE dump near petrol DID in lower BSD. Small fires started in clothing show advance, some damage to various BSD and many telephone lines down but no serious damage or losses. Several mines possibly dropped but considered none fell in harbours.	Adj't
V50	1355	ABCD		Sitcom.	D/o.
V51	1445	ABCD		"	"
V52	1555	ABCD		"	"
I68	1615	GAGE.		Extract from FAKO's admin copy nos. of MILITARY REPORTS on Libya 1936 held from whom received & date of receipt. Nil returns required.	
V53	1813	A B D		Sitcom	BDE D/O ADV.
V54	1838	C		"	
V55	1945	ABCD		Sitcom	Bde D/o.
I10/1	2010		ABCDHQ	P.W. JIM	Sigs
V56	2045	ABCD		Sitcom	Bde D/o
V57	2150	ABCD		Sitcom	Bde D/o
V58	2242	ABCD		Sitcom	Bde D/o adv.
V55A	1946	Pin O.		reporting observation of submarine periscope moving WEST at approx 10 knots	Bde adv.
I70	2325	GAGE		Sitcom: HL bombing by JU88, 1,715 hrs + bombs on harbour vicinity. info ref V55A. During day 7 JU52's observed flying WEST and 2 EAST along EL ADEM escarp't, also 380 MT WEST & 245 EAST. Four	

11 Sep 41
10 Sep 41

ACTION DIARY

SERIAL	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
V59	2345	ABCD		E. Area near SW perimeter dispersed by arty. Sitnor	Bde D/O adv.
<u>11 Sep 41</u>					
V1	0055	B		reporting return of digging party which struck rocks	D/O
V2	0056	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O adv
V3	0200	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O adv.
V4	0245	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "
V5	0345	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "
V6	0445	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "
V7	0545	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O adv.
V8	0655	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "
V9	0745	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O adv.
V10	0850	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "
V11	1125	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O adv
V12	1245	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "
I73	1344	CAGE		FHKO report ground situation unchanged slight decrease enemy shelling WEST and SOUTH and greater decrease EAST. quiet night 2 E.A. at 0520 hrs dropped 8 bombs ABCD HQ by 413432 damaging lines only. advised No contact with enemy by our patrols.	ADJST
V13	1347	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "
V14	1444	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "
V15	1545	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "
V16	1600	CAGE		2 Hurricanes will be flying over Fortress Area at a low altitude at 1700 hrs © warn all troops.	ABCD Bde HQ advised
V16	1650	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "
V17	1741	CAGE		Sitnor	Sigs.
V18	1745	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "
I76	1745	CAGE		PW 11 Sept BETH	ABCD HQ Bde advised
V19	1745	CAGE		Expect large scale HF by own arty 1850 to 1902 hrs © retaliation likely © warn also supporting arms in your area © ACK	ADJST advised and ack made by him
V20	1855	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "
V21	2000	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O adv.
V22	2055	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O adv.
V23	2150	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O Adv.

Attendant

11 Sep 41

ACTION DIARY

Called

SERIAL	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
V24	2300	ABCD		Sitnov	Bde 3/0 Adv
V25	2350	ABCD		Sitnov	- - "
<u>12 SEP '41.</u>					
V26	0035	ABCD		Sitnov	Bde D/o adv
V27	0145	ABCD		Sitnov	Bde D/o infd
V28	0245	ABCD		Sitnov	Bde D/o infd
V29	0345	ABCD		Sitnov	Bde D/o infd
V30	0445	ABCD		Sitnov.	" " "
V31	0545	ABCD		Sitnov	" " "
V32	0655	ABCD		Sitnov	" " "
V33	0750	ABCD		Sitnov	" " "
V34	0854	ABCD		Sitnov	Adj. advised
	0912	HUTA		All quiet sitnov.	" "
V35	0947	ABCD		Sitnov	
V36	1117	DBAC		Sitnov	
V37	1128		CAGE	Sitnov	
V38	1201	ABCD		Sitnov	
V39	1255	ABCD		Sitnov	
V40	1350	ABCD		Sitnov	
I81	1350	CAGE		FAKO report small GERMAN patrol strength appx 4 shot up during night 11/12 @ three enemy killed @ one GERMAN captured and since identified 10 coy 107 inf Regt @ successful harassing shot by Arty on RT and PT 209 causing explosion at former @ about 70 bombs dropped during night @ 0320 16 bombs SW of harbour @ 0426 hrs to 0536 hrs 40 bombs SW of harbour one stick straddled from SW to Nob jetty @ no material damage reported (all inf)	adj.
I12/1	1417	UGER	ABCD Bde	advising FAKO report as per I81.	Sigs.
V41	1455	ABCD		Sitnov	
V42	1545	ABCD		Sitnov	
I12/2	1550	UGER	ABCD Bde	Password for 12 th Sep JANE	Sigs.
V43	1700	ABCD		Sitnov	Bde D/o inf.
O51	1725	CAGE		FAKO reports that advice has been received that an intensive air raid can be expected tonight.	Sigs.
I12/3	1732		ABCD HQ SEEN.	Advising O51	Sigs.
V44	1745	ABCD		Sitnov	Adj.

12 Sep

ACTION DIARY

Callahan

Serial N°	Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
V45	1845	ABCD		Sitnor	Adj
V46	1950	ABCD		"	Bde D/O adv.
V47	2047	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O adv
V48	2149	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O adv
V49	2249	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O adv
V50	2347	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O adv

SEP 13th 41

I 85	185	2400	FAKO	<p>FAKO report one JU88 dropped 10 bombs ORDNANCE area 1739 hrs @ slight damage to clothing store @ arty in harbour EAST six shells town end harbour during morning but only slight damage @ considerable movement MT heard behind salient and further SW during day @ all informed.</p>	<p>D/O advised Sitrep 13/1</p>
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SEP 13th 41

V1	V1	0045	ABCD	Sitnor	Brigade D/O advised
	V2	0145	ABCD	Sitnor	Brigade D/O advised
	V3	0255	ABCD	Sitnor	Brigade D/O adv
	V4	0345	ABCD	Sitnor	Brigade D/O adv
	V5	0445	ABCD	Sitnor	Bde D/O adv.
	V6	0545	ABCD	Sitnor	Bde D/O adv.
	V7	0645	ABCD	Sitnor	Bde D/O adv.
	V8	0745	ABCD	Sitnor	Bde D/O adv.
	V9	08.37	ABCD	Sitnor	
	V10	09.42	ABCD	Sitnor	
	V11	10.51	ABCD	Sitnor	
	V12	11.39	CAGE	Sitnor	Col. G. adv.
	V13	11.55	A.B.C.D	Sitnor	
	V14	12.50	ABCD	Sitnor	
	V15	1245	A	IEA fired on A/TR personnel in A Coy area Adj inf	
I 88	1355	CAGE		<p>FAKO report slight movement MT along bypass after night @ Enemy continues consolidation around Pt. 209 base el Hedamerah by increase in shelling of our FDL's in EAST slight in WEST and normal in SOUTH @ Our patrols made no contact with enemy @ Enemy bombing raid</p>	Sitrep 13/1

DATE 13 SEP 41

ACTION DIARY *balladed*

Serial No.	Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
I 88 (contd)		CAGE		almost continuous 0303 to 0420 hrs About 100 bombs and 6 mines dropped 4 of latter probably in harbour & 200 litres gls petrol some amm'n in ITALIAN AAD some tentage clothing stationery stocks destroyed at Ordnance & No casualties & all informed	
V 16	1400	ABCD		Sitnor	
I 13/1	1500		ABCD	litrep containing I 88 from bage	Sigs
V 17	1500	ABCD		Sitnor	
V 18	1600	ABCD		Sitnor	
I 13/2	1620		ABCD	Sitnor	
			HQ Bech	PWO JILL	Sigs
V 19	1700	ABCD		Sitnor	
V 20	1948	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O adv
V 21	2044	ABCD		SITNOR	" " "
V 22	2141	ABCD		SITNOR	" " "
V 23	2247	ABCD		SITNOR	" " "
I 90	2255	CAGE		Photo recd 1430 hrs 12 SEP covered areas 38274270 to 39114399 and 39824225 to 37904265 & approx 75 MT approx 38884380 & No AFV concentrations observed sub normal activity throughout area & SITREP @ 1655 hrs one JU 88 dropped sticks bombs near navy house & during AM arty in EAST fired 8 shells near jetties but no damage resulted & sounds of movt. enemy MT compressors etc issued from escarpment near CARRIER HILL during day & ground situation quiet.	
I 13/3	2340		ABCD HQ	copy FAKO ser I 90	Civil adv
V 24	2350	ABCD		Sitnor	Sigs
V 1					Bde D/O adv
	0050	ABCD		Sitnor	" "
V 2	0150	ABCD		"	" "
V 3	0245	ABCD		"	" "
V 4	0345	ABCD		"	" "
V 5	0446	ABCD		"	" "

14 SEP 41

14 SEP 41

ACTION DIARY

ballasted

Serial	Time	From	To	Event	Action
V.6	05.45	ABCD		Sitnor	Ple. 96. adv.
V.7	06.45	A.B.C.D		Sitnor	
V.8	07.45	A.B.C.D.		Sitnor	J. det.
V.9	08.47	ABCD		Sitnor	
V.10	09.45	ABCD		Sitnor	
V.11	10.47	ABCD		Sitnor	
V.12	11.30		CAGE	Sitnor (SITREP)	
V.13	11.49	ABCD		Sitnor	
V.14	12.44	ABCD		Sitnor	
V.15	13.50	ABCD		Sitnor	
I14/1	14.45		ABCD HQ Bde	PW "MABEL"	Sigs
V.16	14.58	ABCD		Sitnor	
V.17	15.55	ABCD		Sitnor	
V.18	16.48	ABCD		Sitnor	
V.19	17.30		Bde	Sitnor	I sec. adv.
V.20	17.45	ABCD		Sitnor	
057	17.55		26 Bde	On CROMWELL Comdr. reserve Bde and NOT comdr left Bde will be responsible for closing GAPS in MINEFIELD near BIANCA Bde comdr will advise left Coy comdr reserve Bde where SAPPERS will report on word CROMWELL	to adv.
I14/2	18.05		26 Bde	Ack 057	Sigs
V.21	18.55	ABCD		Sitnor	
V.22	19.50	ABCD		Sitnor	L PW Bde Dp adv.
V.23	20.50	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "
I.96	21.30	CAGE		FAKO advise at midnight 15th SEP all clocks will be returned one hour to conform to end of summer time EGYPT EASTERN DESERT and TOBRUCH & thereafter local time will be two hours ahead of GMT instead of three hours.	Coy adv.
I14/3	21.35		ABCD HQ	advising change clocks	Sigs
V.24	21.45	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde No info
V.25	22.55	ABCD		"	"
V.26	23.50	ABCD		"	"

14 SEP 41

15 SEP 41 ACTION DIARY

Called.

L	Time	From	To	Event	Action
I 97	2350	CAGE		<p>Sigra No av activity @ enemy. Shelling FDLs normal WEST and SOUTH by in EAST @ enemy activity SIDI ID AUD sector continues @ 1815 hrs two enemy tanks attacked strong posts BIR SVESI 422420 but were driven off with only few @ during attack tanks for few rounds NW direction which fell in wake rear of FDLs @ further six enemy tanks observed area 425419 but these made off when former tanks engaged by avty @ generally less enemy activity on WESTERN sector than during last 2/3 days</p>	
I 15	0025		ABCD	above with I 97.	S/C infd Sigs
059	0046	CAGE		<p>Comm for German 7.29 rifle is urgently required for experiment @ please search and send max possible number to FAKO @ The bullet 7.29 mm calibre and size of SAA used in spandau @ The case is very large and long in proportion to the bullet being about the size of Boys rifle case.</p>	Adj infd
V 11	0055	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O infd
V 2	0145	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O infd
V 3	0245	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O infd
V 4	0345	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O infd
V 5	0445	"		"	" " "
V 6	0550	"		"	" " "
V 7	0655	"		"	" " "
V 8	0740	"		"	" " "
V 9	0908	"		"	" " "
V 10	0943	"		"	" " "
V 11	1050	ABCD		"	" " "
V 12	1130		CAGE	"	" " "
V 13	1149	A B C D		"	" " "

162-

JCH

15 SEP 41

ACTION DIARY

Ballard

Serial	Time	From	To	Event	Action
V14	1247	ABCD		Sitnor	
V15	1349	ABCD		Sitnor	
V16	1447	ABCD		Sitnor	
I99	1507	CAGE		FAKO reports enemy shelling eastern front extensive raids during night but western and southern sectors have been normal. Patrols penetrated deeply and although coming under MG fire on several occasions no contact was made. Bombing attacks night 14/15 Sept as follows. 0400 hrs 12 H.E bombs NORTH POINT. 0430 hrs to 0450 hrs 12 HE bombs same area further 12 on town some in ordnance workshops. One workshop heavy destroyed 1 15 cwt van damaged. 0504 to 0616 hrs 6 HE NW foreshore in sea. 12 close to FEMALE POINT. 0928 J.O. 88 dropped stuck escarpment SW of harbour. Movement of tracked vehicles heard on eastern front and at first light 4 tanks observed vicinity 419425.	
V15/2	1534	ABCD HQ BECH		PK 15/16 Sept "JEAN"	Sigs
V15/3	1535	ABCD HQ		FAKO Sitrep I 99.	Sigs
V17	1549	ABCD 1		Sitnor	
V18	1645	A.B.C.D.		Sitnor	
V19	1732	CAGE		Sitnor	Pde. advised
V20	1748	A.B.C.D.		Sitnor	
V21	1842	A.B.C.D.		Sitnor	
I100	1932	CAGE		Ref CAGE I 99. for 419425 read 425419	
V15/4	1935	ABCD HQ		Correction to FAKO Sitrep I 100.	Sigs
V23	1950	ABCD		Sitnor	Pde. D/o advised
I 15/3	1955	UGER		FAKO Sitrep ① reports enemy shelling EASTERN front ① extensive raids during night but WESTERN and SOUTHERN sectors have been normal ① patrols penetrated deeply and although coming under MG fire on several occasions no contact was made ① bombing attacks night 14/15 Sept. as follows ① 0400 hrs 12 H.E bombs on NORTH POINT ① 0430 hrs to 0450 hrs 12 HE bombs same area	

16
15 SEP 41

ACTION DIARY

Calluted

Serial	Time	From	To	Event	Action
				Further 12 on town some in ordnance workshops @ 1 workshop lorry destroyed 1 15cwt van damaged @ 0504 hrs to 0616 hrs.	
V24	2055	A B C D		SITNOR	Bde D/o advised
V25	2145	A B C D		SITNOR	Bde D/o advised
V26	2245	A B C D		SITNOR	Bde D/o advised
V27	2335		CAGE	4 orange flares of 6 to 8 minutes duration followed by 3 orange flares altitude 4/500 ft approx 90°	
V28	2350	A B C D		SITNOR	Bde D/o advised
	2400			Clock returned 1 hr to 2300 hrs Sig officer instructed to obtain correct time from Bde & synchronize correct time of all companies	
V29	2312	D		OC 'D' boy reports recs completed satisfactorily.	D/O.
I102	2340	CAGE		FAKO reports situation unchanged @ 1335 hrs enemy fired 1200s from EAST into town @ 1738 to 1747 hrs one JU 88 dropped 6 bombs west end of town in and near petrol DID @ no damage or casualties @ enemy MOVEMENT along town escapement 0900 to 1830 hrs 150 to 180 moving WEST @ visibility dull @ all informed.	Boys & D/O informed
V30	2400	A, B, C, D		SITNOR	BDE D/O advised
V31	0045	A, B, C, D		SITNOR	" " "
V32	0145	A, B, C, D		SITNOR	" " "
V33	0240	CAGE		Sentry in wadi at Bde report a group of men & diesel truck near the wadi, speaking broken English, failed to give password, and proceeded to Senna rd direction, BDE D/O advised to notify our Rgt fwd boy ('C').	"6" Silver advised.
V34	0245	A, B, C, D		SITNOR	BDE D/O advised.
V35	0350	A B C D		SITNOR	" " "
V36	0445	A B C D		SITNOR	Bde D/o adv.
V37	0549	A B C D		SITNOR	Bde D/o adv.

16 SEP 41

Date 16 SEP 41

ACTION DIARY

Callahan

Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
V38 0650	ABCD		Sitnov	Bde D/O adv.
V39 0750	ABCD		Sitnov	Bde T Sec adv.
V40 0850	ABCD		Sitnov	D/O adv.
V41 0950	ABCD		Sitnov	" "
V42 1050	ABCD		Sitnov	" "
V43 1130		CAGE	Sitnov	" "
V44 1140	ABCD		Sitnov	" "
V45 1245	ABCD		Sitnov	" "
V46 1346	ABCD		Sitnov	" "
V47 1450	ABCD		Sitnov	" "
I 106 1505		CAGE	Fake report that as result of our combined sea land air shelling and bombing attack on hostile guns in EAST enemy put down by DF on Sidi Daud sector. Enemy shellings of FDL's increased in SOUTH and WEST but still heavy in EAST. 18 vehs possibly AFVs moved WEST along escarpment 0830 hrs. Ground situation unchanged. No bombing during night but HL attacks by single JU88's 0825 and 0850 hrs. 1006 hrs 15 G50's observed flying EAST along El Adem escarpment and 1010 hrs 14 bombers flying same course same direction all informed.	ADJt
I 16/1 1515		ABCD HQ Bech	PW "HELEN" Sitnov	
V48 1640		CAGE	2 Hurricanes will fly over area 1715 hrs. Warn all ranks.	All Corps adv.
I 16/2 1641		ABCD HQ	Advising V48.	Sigs.
V49 1720		CAGE	Sitnov.	Verbally to Gold Sec.
V50 1900	ABCD		Sitnov.	
V51 2000	ABCD		Sitnov.	Bde D/O adv.
V52 2045	ABCD		Sitnov.	Bde D/O adv.
V53 2145	ABCD		Sitnov.	Bde D/O adv.
T 109 2235		CAGE	During day 25 EA flew WEST SOUTH of FORTRESS area and 33 flew EAST. No bombing during day. Movement enemy MT along escarpment EAST to WEST 88 WEST to EAST 154. Ground	Adj't Gold Sec. adv.

ACTION DIARY

Callahan

16 Sep

Serial No	Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
				situation quiet.	
V 54	2250	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O adv.
V 55	2345	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O adv.

17 SEP

V 1	0052	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O adv.
V 2	0140	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O adv.
V 3	0245	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "
V 4	0350	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "
V 5	0447	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "
V 6	0549	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "
V 7	0647	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "
V 8	0730		CAGE	SITREP (Sitnor)	By D/O.
V 9	0747	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O adv.
V 10	0857	ABCD		Sitnor	"
V 11	0949	ABCD		Sitnor	"

No MT movement forward of BLUE LINE other than that for urgent operational purposes during period up to 0700 hrs

18 Sep.

V 12	1059	ABCD		Sitnor	"	
V 13	1130		CAGE	Sitnor	Bde D/O advised	
V 14	1200	ABCD		Sitnor	"	
V 12	1245	CAGE		FAKO report quiet night @ 0625 hrs. 1 E.A. dropped something possibly mine vicinity harbours @ 0830 hrs one E.A. dropped 6 bombs WEST of town @ no damage reported @ low shelling reduced all sectors thought shell above normal in EAST Harbours has NOT been shelled since air & naval bombardment night 13/14 Sept @ no contact by our patrols @ situation quiet @ all inf.	Sitnor	"
V 15	1300	ABCD		Sitnor	"	
V 16	1400	ABCD		"	"	
V 17	1450	ABCD		"	"	
V 18	1555	"		"	"	
V 19	1700	"		"	"	
V 20	1730		CAGE	"	Verbally to Gold Sec.	
V 21	1905	ABCD		"	"	
I 17/1	1919		HQ 8cds ABCD	PW HAZEL	Sigs	
V 23	1945	C		Area has been inspected and found clear	"	
V 24	1959	ABC		SITNOR	Bde D/O advised	
V 25	2000	C		Reporting that they are signing off.	"	

ACTION DIARY

Date: 18 SEP

Callated

Serial No	Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
V16	0730		HIGH	SITREP (Sitnor)	By D/O
V17	0744	ABCD		Sitnor	By D/O
C48	0815	C (NOBE)		Standing Patrol 18/19 Sept each 3 ORs leave 1930hrs return 0545 hrs	
				PENNY 40074289 FOOLISH 40064287	
				POUND 40064284	
V18	0842	ABCD		Sitnor	Int. Off.
L1	0920	LEO OP.		LEO established 4009 4276. 2 E seen at R3 0643 hrs. 0736 hrs party of E seen walking EAST 4007 4240. Same party 0750 hrs seen in gaggings and sangars 4011 4241.	Int. Off.
F1	0925	B		Telephone urgently required at Kortar Post. NOT possible to use Kortars without telephone.	
I1	0950			Sitnor	I. Off.
V19	0955	ABCD		Sitnor	I. Office.
RW	1004			Field Works. Two coys will perform 4 hrs minimum nightly reserve and No. 9 Coy 4 hours minimum daily. First task deepening and bomb proofing. Coys submit report by 0900hrs daily work carried out previous 24 hrs.	by Major Wall.
V20	1040	ABCD		Sitnor	I. Off.
V21	1140	ABCD		Sitnor	I. Off.
V21(a)	1140		Bde	SITREP (Sitnor)	
V22	1145	2/23	2/23	Sitnor	
I18/1	1145		2 Polish Bn	SITREP	Sigs
I2	1150	Bde		DEFI report light shelling all sectors and no bombing during night. Single JU 88 dropped stick WEST of harbour and near Italian AA 0813 to 0823 hrs. No patrols made contact.	I. Off all boys not.
L18/2	1155		ABCD AQ	HIGH Sitrep I 2.	Sigs
V23	1247	BACD		Sitnor	I. Off
V24	1344	ABCD		Sitnor	"
V25	1455	ABCD		Sitnor	"
V26	1550	ABCD		"	"
S.F.1	1600		ABCD HQ	Urgent shortage envelopes & please return all available these HQ	Sigs.

Date 17 Sep

ACTION DIARY

Kellaway

Serial	Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION.
V26	2005	AB		Signing off	
V27	2010			BHQ moving off Lt-Col Brown's party arrived at New M.D.	
V28	2205	D Coy		"Sportsman" Indicating relief Completed.	Adjt.
RW	2218 2218	HQ Coy		"Sportsman" Indicating relief Completed at 2125 hrs.	Adjt.
V29	2225	A Coy		"Sportsman" Indicating relief completed	Adjt.
V30	2345	C		"Sportsman" " " "	C.O.
V31	0015	D	<u>18 SEP</u>	C.L. reports 58 men (unidentified) wounded left to right. NOT engaged pending enquiries whether any engaged. Search for engaged parties out.	No recee parties out. Search for engaged parties out.
				248 Pm D Coy OC. reported that at dusk 17 Sep, 2 Tks were seen moving West along Aerona Rd.	C.O. inf. This info not handed over.
V32	0017	B Coy		Relief progressing satisfactorily but NOT yet complete.	C.O.
V33	0020	B Coy		"Sportsman" Indicating relief completed	C.O.
V34	0022	Bde		Relief of 248 Pm Complete Situation normal	Verbal to D/O.
V35	0044	D Coy		19 Mortar bombs in left fwd pl area between 0005 and 0020. HQ fire opened across same area. Otherwise Situar.	Verbal to D/O.
V36	0045	C		Situar	
V37	0052	B		Situar	
V38	0054	A		Situar.	
V39	0055	Bde		Same MG fire & 19 Mortar Bombs on D Coy otherwise Situar	Verbal to D/O.
V40	0155	DABC		Situar	Bde D/O adv.
V41	0243	DABC		"	" " "
V42	0340	DABC		"	" " "
V43	0444	DABC		"	" " "
V44	0544	ABCD		"	" " "
V45	0642	ABCD		"	" " "

ACTION DIARY closed KB

18 Sep. 41

Serial	Time	From	To	Event	Action
V27	1650	A.B.C.D.		Sitnav.	I office.
I18/3	1720			Sitnav.	Sigs.
I18/4	1835			P.W. 'WALTZ'.	Sigs.
V28	1800	A.B.C.D.		Sitnav.	I.O.
V29	1855	B.C.A.D.		Sitnav.	I.O.
R.W.	1830		A.B.C.D.	Message re Field Work etc.	Sigs.
V30		OLON		Satral Modification.	B. Coy adv.
V31	1954	A B C D		SITNOR	Bde DO advised
I18/5	2014		ABCD HQ	ARGY FREN NOBE LIND to be discontinued being replaced by A B C D respectively pls to revert to R C L etc as before	Sigs
V32	2045	DABC		SITNOR	Bde D/O advised
V33	2115	D		At 1730 DC fwd sec fired ^{with LMG and rifle} on enemy party of 12 400' to 500' beyond enemy wire & 2 casualties probably inflicted Enemy posn being registered for further attention	B.O. advised Bde D/O also
V34	2152	A B C D		SITNOR	
V35	2154		HIGH	Sitrep containing V33	Bde D/O.
I5	2225	HIGH		No air bombing since 0900 hrs but previous raid 0815 hrs damaged quantity foodstuffs including 10,000 lbs sausages NO harbour shelling Enemy MT movement along escarpment 92 WEST & EAST. Enemy shelling after 1300 hrs made inactivity N/A	
V36	2245	A B C D		SITNOR	Bde D/O advised
I18/6	2305	AMOB OLON		Sitrep containing V33	Sigs
V37	2347	A B C D		SITNOR	Bde D/O advised
V38	2400	D		D SILVER has returned from AMOB.	D/O advised
<u>19 SEP</u>					
V1	0045	D		0020 hrs 3 mm on DL @ Bearing on mortar flash from DR at fwd sec 188°	
V2	0100	A B C D		SITNOR	Bde DO advised
V3	0148	D		0100 DL 12 MH	
V4	0152	A B C D		SITNOR BR line out of order	Bde DO advised
V5	0152		HIGH AMOB OLON	Sitnav	" "
V6	0244	H B C D		Sitnav	" "
V7	0345	H B C D		Sitnav	" "
V8	0447	H B C D		Sitnav	" "

Date: 19 Sept. 41.

ACTION DIARY

dated R.B.

Serial No	Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
V9	0540	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde & D/O info
V10	0641	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde & D/O info.
V11	0727		HIGH	Sitrep	By D/O
I 19/1	0730		AMOB OLON	Sitrep	Sigs
V12	0743	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde & D/O info
V13	0900	ABCD		Sitnor	I.O.
C54	0910	C		Shelling Report to 0600 hrs. 19 Sept. No.	I.O.
C55	0910	C		S. Standing patrols 19/20 Sep	I.O.
V14	0950	ABCD		Sitnor	
R.W.	0940		ABCD.	Field Works report due 0900 hrs NOT yet received - required at once.	Sigs.
V15	1040	ACD		Sitnor. (unable to raise B)	
I y.	1145	Bde.		9 Div. report extremely quiet night & nothing to report.	Dtjt. C.O.
V16	1145	ABCD.		Sitnor	I.O.
I 19/2.	1145.		Bde. 2/24 in 2/11 Patrols	Sitnor	Sigs
I 19/3	1215		Bde. D.C.B. Capt.	Notifying C. Coy's standing patrols.	Sigs
V17	1215.	A		Advising Mr Mathews will be at A Coy for lunch, C & D Coys this afternoon. probably C Coy. thought where he will be all day tomorrow & returning these HQ tomorrow evening (20 Sep.)	I.O. C.O.
D6	1300	D		Listening Posts and Standing Patrols only 19/20 Sep	I.O.
V18	1302.	B.A.D.		Sitnor (C. Coy. out of comm. with	I.O.
I4	1400	2/24 Bn		Sitnor (Land. posts.) Whitman	I.O.
V19	1452	ABCD		SITNOR (bent pl C Coy out of communication).	
C2	1506	PEARL		bode list ACK @ previous list destroyed	
RW	1507		B	Third repeat third request for your field works report due 0900 hrs. @ Expedite	Sigs
RW	1509		PWA Offr	One thousand sand bags to BND C today if possible.	Sigs.
I 19/4	1604		ABCD HQ Bech	P.W. "POLKA"	Sigs
V20	1547	B		14 MH on BR otherwise sitnor ✓	
V21	1551	B		considerable movement 40004246 @ least 20 visible and it is estimated that 40 or 50 E in this area.	I.O. advised Call this
V22	1557	ACD		SITNOR	

39974248 Task 2

Date: 19 SEP		ACTION DIARY			dated RB
Serial No	Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
V23	1649	ABC		SITNOR	
I 19/5	1700		Bde BCD	BIND B and D standing scrums 19/20 Sep same as 18/19 Sep All informed	Sigs
I 19/6	1730		Bde 2/24 2 Polish Bn.	SITREP SITNOR	Sigs.
V24	1650	B		3 standing patrols (listening posts) each 2 ORs fwd of pls.	C D notified also Bde
07	1746	CAGE		That this HQ may comply with a DEFI instruction: all shelling reports must be in duplicate	
V25	1753	D		DC 25 SM 1730 hrs. ✓	
V26	1750	AD		SITNOR (B too busy to give report).	
V27	1810	B		Arty fire on 40004246 was very good at first but later moved to 39974248. This was OK as some enemy were seen around there also. SILVER B would like the first area registered as TASK 1 and the second area as TASK 2. He considers 40004246 as a pl area. Only one or 2 enemy now visible.	
V28	1815	OLON		I send snake ^{RTR} EW ^E RSSV R2RE.	40074247
L1	1835	LEO		1555 4MH BH 1645 2MH BL 1710 9MH 40034273 1715 3SM BH 1715 7SM 40124281 ✓	
V29	1847	B		5 to 6 pls enemy assembling between areas 39914250 and 40054245	Bde infd.
V30	1908		CD	C.O. informed SILVERS of C & D of enemy concentration and ordered infd that coys to "stand to" rations parties to be cancelled meantime	b.O.
V31	1909		B	C.O. ordered standing patrols & L.P's to be established immediately after dark and coy to "stand to".	b.O. infd.
V32	1922		A	C.O. ordered "SILVER" A to have ration parties returns immediately from fwd coys	
V33		HIGH		Requesting reason for delay in ordering fire. This was explained to him as being due to failure of High's switch to answer.	

Date 19 Sep.

ACTION DIARY *dated K.B.*

Serial N°	Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
V 34	1932	A		One ration party back.	b.o.
V 35	1934	D		"D" strength complete and standing to	b.o.
V 36	1942		B	Snake from OLON going to vicinity about which we were talking	
V 37	1957		Bde	SITNOR	
V 38	2003		B	Captain Haworth reporting for duty tonight	b.o.
V 39	2007		HIGH	We unable to raise Bn on our left. Even when we do raise them, it is almost impossible to understand them. Please notify them of tonight's happenings as a patrol of theirs is going to that area tonight. Please ask them to advise us of the times of their snakes and the strengths of same.	D/O
V 40	2040	HBCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O adv
V 41	2045	B		B.L. reports coughing heard 600' WEST - this is normal. Also heard 3 MT in low gear approx 2500' WEST	" " "
B I/1	2105	B		SP out BL ^{R.H.} 1940 hrs strength 3. Route BL to R55DR277 returning same route 0500hrs 20 Sept.	Bde D/O adv
V 42	2124	BL		LP report sound MT 1000' WEST Also heard voice probably N6-O directing truck truck. Stone heard to be kicked just forward of our wire. Lieut Lukey + 3 ORs out to make through investigation	Bde adv
V 43	2144	D		D reports tracer bullets going up earlier than usual otherwise sitnor	GP boys not
V 44	2146	ABC		SITNOR	
V 45	2147	B		Patrol returned reporting NMS/H	Bde adv
V 46	2152		BCD	Stand down. Carry on with rations	
V 47	2155		Bde	We have stood down. SITNOR is hourly sitrep. Patrol of 10 off 3 ORs went out + investigated MT heard (see V41) but reported NMS/H. A stone heard to	

Date 19 Sep

ACTION DIARY

dated K.B.

Serial No	Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
V 48	2200	AMOB	AMOB	be hooked just found of our wire SITREP (Sitnor)	By D/O
V 49	2247	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O
V 50	2248	D		1 off 3 ORs out DL 2359hrs In DL 0200hrs 19/20 Sept Pl Goldstone pushing forward off platoon area general observation About 150 yards.	Bde Hec notified
I 10	2305	HIGH		DEFI reports no bombing during day and shelling normal. 200 enemy observed area 399 425 400 421 at 2000hrs. Engaged but results not observed in falling light	R/O Inf.
I 19/7	2308		HIGH H 130	Bde D Patrol Notifications	Sigs
V 51	2340	D	B.	Sitnor	Bde D/O

SEPT 20TH AT

V 1	0046	D		SITNOR	Adj. infd.
V 2	0052	ABC		SITNOR	" Bde infd.
V 3	0144	HDC		Sitnor	Bde & R/O Inf.
V 4	0145	B		Heavy MG fire. 1 Mortar Bomb just fallen in area. ✓	
V 5	0200	AMOB	HIGH AMOB	SITREP	By D/O
I 20/1	0202	B		Arly DF tasks. QUEEN R8888 426900 400040 427320 RMH488 to R8888 RMEAMB. 399996 428800 400385 NUTS H4444H RMDD88 to R884DC 426620 400600 426600 RMH888 MONKEY R88488 RMH888 400850 426600 to R88DC8 RMH888. CP tasks SUGAR H4DDRMEM. Toe 39904267 39964269 H448RMHE. UNCLE H44HRM44	Sigs
V 6	0240	DBAC		Sitnor	Bde D/O adv.
V 7	0250	B.		1 MM - BR.	D/O.
V 8	0340	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O adv.
V 9	0410	D		trucks firing an Amal front bearing 270°. Approx 600' from DL. Blasting at bearing 280° from DL approx 500' at 0410 Sitnor.	D/O. 2/24 Adv. Bde D/O adv.
V 10	0450	ACB		Sitnor	"

20 Sep.

ACTION DIARY.

delet KB

Serial	Time	From	To	Event	Action
VII	0550	ABCD		Sitnor.	Bde D/O adv.
VIV	0640	B		0600hrs. Several gps enemy seen moving SOUTH to escarp suggesting movement last evening was working parties coming forward. Considerable movement seen all along escarp indicating occupied positions extending WEST to EAST. F.O. (Capt Jones) last evening considered there were only a few enemy to be seen but this is NOT the case. Present F.O. realises there is considerable movement & many targets along escarp & forward of it to overcome difficulty of bringing fire (it took upwards of half an hr this morning) suggests that the observation be made from # RII from which post fire can be obtained quickly.	Bde D/O.
13	0650	A.B.C.D.		Sitnor.	Bde D/O. adv
	0715		26 Bde.	Shelling Report.	Sigs.
I20/2	0725		"	Patrol reports.	"
I20/3	0728		Bde 24 Bn. 2 Patrols	Sitnor.	"
VIII	0750	A.B.C.D.		Sitnor.	Bde. adv.
C60	0810	C		2nd Works Report.	To Maj. Wall.
C56	"	C		Standing patrols - 20/21 Sep.	T.O.
C60	"	C		Shelling report.	T.O.
				0800-0900 - 8mm - CR.	Shelling report
				" " " 11mm - CL.	report
				1500-1600 - 23mm "	
				1800-1900 - 6mm "	
VIS	0935	ABCD		Sitnor.	
W2	0945	A		2d Works Report	To Maj Wall
I5	0945	2/24		SITNOR	DO advised
V16	1013	ABCD		SITNOR	DO advised
V17	1112	ABCD		SITNOR	

Date: 20 SEP

ACTION DIARY

Noted K.B.

Sig No	Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
I 20/4	1130		^{Bde} 2/24 2 POLISH Bn	SITNOR	Sigs
V 18	1149	BCD		SITNOR (A out of communication)	
I 8	1243	2/24		SITNOR	D/O
V 19	1247	ABCD		SITNOR	
V 20	1305	B		AFV observed by BL at 1035 hrs. Sighted on top of escarpment at 196°; went out of sight at 216°. Was carrying one person. Was travelling WEST and then SOUTH. Only top of turret visible. <i>J.S. Henderson</i>	D/O 39974243 39874243 collected
713	1424	HIGH		DEFI report H.E BOMBS SW harbour 0800 hrs 20th Sept. Shelling our FDL's slight all sectors No patriots made contact.	D/O info
L-1	1431	LEO		1120 hrs BR 12 M.H. 1158 BL 6 M.H. 1220 hrs to 1238 hrs 6 M.H BR area.	D/O info Shelling Report
V 21	1453	CHBD		Sitnor	D/O info
V 22	1547	HBCD		Sitnor	D/O info
I 20/5	1620		ABCD HQ	P.W. 20/21 Sept "SWING"	Sigs
V 23	1649	B.		3 M.H BR 1649 hrs	D/O info
V 24	1649	B.A.C.D.		SITNOR	D/O info
I 20/10	1730		HIGH 7 MOB ORON	Sitrep 1.20.	Sigs
V 25	1740	B		Heavy Shelling B.L.	D/O info
V 26	1754	H.C.D.B.		Sitnor	D/O info
V 27	1840	D		1575 to 1800 hrs we engaged enemy tanks with 81 mm mortar. At 39974300 we got hits on enemy position and 3 to 4 casualties inflicted. At 39974299 direct hit on MG Post - 1 casualty seen. At 39974292 direct hit on enemy post (enemy diggings) where 2 + 5 men were seen. No casualties observed. Dead ground area 40084293 redoubt with 18 rds - observer could not observe results. Forward Posts may have observed same and may report same tonight. <i>J.C.P.</i>	D/O info D/O info D/O info

DATE 20 Sep

ACTION DIARY

dated RB

Serial N°	Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
V77 019	1854 1855	AMOB HIGH		Situation 20 ATK will be withdrawn SOUTH of SIDI MAHMUD on approx 19 413 423 and support POLISH and 20 INF BDE. Rece new area and adjustment by inf ^{part} with 20 ATK coy to move as following the 4 th night 20/21 Sept and remainder of coy 21/22 Sept	D/O info D/O info
V80	1903	B		50 rockets followed by 1 M.T. now approaching area C.P. U - requesting arty fire.	Co informed + arty fire Called for Bde
V81 V82	1914 1920	ACD B		Situation 4/5 gps of enemy (some in rear) of about 20 each approached from same area as last night to within 1500' of EU with 1 M.T. in rear. Ret returned after few mins. 4 flashes resembling torch on 195° + 196° from EU. Flashes were at 5/10 sec intervals from top of escarpment. Otherwise situation	D/O info. 60 info + D/O info Bde.
V83	1921	ACD			
V82	1939	B		1700-1800 hrs 18 SM B.C 12 S.M. B.L.	D/O info Shelling reports
V84	2007	ABCD		Situation. Inc. in Sump to Bde advising V27	Bde ops adv.
I20/7	2000		Bde.	Acty. message 019	Regs
I8	1935	2/24		Situation.	File.
V85	2045	ADCB		Situation	
V86	2115	Switch		Regarding Band of Commos.	D/O.
V87	2145	DABC		Situation	Bde D/O adv.

DATE 20 Sep

ACTION DIARY

Noted KB

Serial N°	Time	From	To	Event	Action
I/45	2220	Bde.		Quiet day 0 no bombing but shelling above normal WESTERN Sector 0 successful MG. threat by UGR and mortar bombardment by BIND 0 several enemy casualties Observed 0 ground situation unchanged	C.O. D/O
V/88	2245	A.B.C.D		Sitnor.	Bde D/O adv.
V/1	0005	Capt. Mr. Wermatt 2/12 L.O.		At 0830 - 21 Sep 2/12 L.O. has advised 3 or 4 ^{of Polish only} ships built up firing on target "U" ^{C.P.} for purposes of registration Infantry to supply observer One round fired from each hoop.	"B" Sitnor. adv.
V/2	0050	A.B.C.D.		Sitnor.	Bde D/O adv.
V/3	0145	DAC		Sitnor.	" " "
V/4	0242	DACB		SITNOR	Bde D/O advised
V/5	0345	B		5 MH BR 0340 hrs otherwise sitnor	Shelling report
V/6	0347	ACD		SITNOR	Bde D/O advised
V/7	0445	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O "
V/8	0452	Tom Wright		Alan Hughes cannot be located. Is not sleeping in his usual post. Maybe sleeping elsewhere. Tom going to OP alone. Sgt to make enquiries when everyone is awake	D/O.
V/9	0545	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O advised
C66	0600	C		Shelling report to 0500 hrs. 20 Sep 0800 to 0900 14 MM 0900 to 1000 8 MM 1700 to 1800 11 MM 21 Sep 2400 to 0100 18 MM SL 13 0100 to 0200 13 MM SL 11 0400 to 0500 14 MM	Shelling report.
V/10	0645	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O advised
B3	0645			Patrol reports 0 BR LP rt sec strength 2 ORs out 2000 in 0400 hrs MT movement heard towards 209 blasting and working party bearing 275° from BR 0 LP left sec heard working party (no bearing) by MT movement between R7 and 209 0 BL LP number 1 strength 4 ORs out 2000 in 0500 MT heard 0 LP	I.O.

ACTION DIARY

Notes K.B.

Date

Serial N°	Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
				N°2 strength 2 ORs out 2000 in 0500hrs NMS/H & SP strength 1 HCO 3 ORs out 2000 in 0500 hrs 300 ^x left of pos moving 50 ^x across front heard working ply using picks and chisels near foot of escarpment.	
T 21/1	0655		26 Bde	Patrol reports 0 BIND D/C LPs NMS/H BIND B SP 300 yds fwd EU NMS but digging heard approx 399425 LPs NMS but heard blasting and digging approx R7.	Sigs
I 21/2	0700		2/24 Bn 2 INF Bn	SITROR	Sigs
W/Lt B 2	0715		26 Bde	Shelling Reports	Sigs
V 11	0745	ABCD		SITROR	Bde D.O. advised
V 12	0749	C		A shell (ours) dropped between CL and BR at approx 0745 hrs. Lt Theone	D/O and Arty L.O. advised
C 65	0800	C		3d Works report	Maj Wall
C 63	0800	C		SP 21/22 Sep each 3 ORs leave 1940 hrs return 0515 hrs CR to 40074289 CC to 40064287 CL 40064284	
	0800	C		Sitrep from C Coy. (Written report) J.S. Henderson	I.O
V 13	0847	HBCD		Sitnor	D/O info
V 12	0941	B		SP HCO 3 ORs out EU 2130hrs 40044267 48034267 to T 65 TT 47M thence T 55 AT 47M in EU. 0430hrs 22 Sept.	D/O info
V 14	0945	HBCD		Sitnor	D/O info
W-1	0946	A		3rd Works Report	Maj Wall
V 15	1130	HBCD		Sitnor	D/O info
I 21/3	1130	C		Advised by 1500hrs dep of 2 mines located also when and where enemy moved fwd & as reported by CR. Not necessary mention what field works will be done or flea situation	Sigs
I 17	1134	HIGH		DEFI sitrep. nothing to report.	D/O info
I 21/4	1135		mmob ORON	SITREP (Sitnor)	Sigs
V 16	1135		HIGH	SITREP	By D/O
V 17	1139	Don		The following Areas are submitted for planned	Advt

21 Sept. 41

ACTION DIARY

Noted K.B.

Serial No.	Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
V.17	(continued)			shoots No.1 3995/7 AREA 4300/2	Target Occupied diggings with at least 3 M.Gs
				No.2 3999/4001 AREA 4292/4	Target Occupied diggings incl at least 3 MORTARS.
				No.3 AREA	Submitted later
				SUITABLE RETALATION AREA	
				Areas No.1 & 2 and the intervening Area	
721/5	1143			MORTAR OFFICER	Notifying him 600 conference
V.18	1150	BDAC		Sitnor	Sigs
V.19	1345	A		Sitnor	D/O info
V.20	1415	ABCD		Sitnor	Signt
V.21	1447	ABCD		SITNOR	D/O informed
V.22	1530	C		M.M.Gs at 4000 4286 + 4001 4287 @ The enemy is NOT occupying more than usual contrary to report from CR of 20 Sep	
V.23	1530	B		Following areas submitted for planned harassing shoot. I area 3993/5, 4276/8 contains by concentration of enemy incl 4 M.M.Gs + 1 suspected MORTAR @ I2 area 3991/3, 4281/3 contains by concentration enemy incl 1 MORTAR 1 M.M.G and at least 1 M.G.	
V.24	1540	ABCD		Sitnor	D/O advised
RW	1555		B	Engs off wishes inspect your posts tonight and will report you 2030 hrs	
I.21/6	1615		ABCD HQ Bed	PW 'LANCERS'	
A.17	1630	Bde		4 new BIND 1 man AMOB delivered AMOB today	

Date 21 Sep

ACTION DIARY

deleted KB.

Serial No	Time	From	To	Event	Action
I 21/7	1645		Bde BCD	Notification of patrols	Sigs
V 25	1700	2/24 Bn		Requesting us to notify our rt. fwd Coy that 2 of 2/24 Bn will be calling at Coy HQ to collect some articles to be left by us there.	"D" INDIGO advised
V 26	1701	ABCD		SITNOR	D/O advised
V 27	1720	D		Mortar shoot by us from 1515 hrs to 1615 hrs today. Scored direct hits on 2 E sangers at 39924292 causing large cloud of smoke. Amm thought to have been hit. Also direct hit on MMA posn at 39924295 timber being thrown into air. Some bombs dropped in diggings near derehit tanks at 39934299 from which a sniper is thought to be operating. No casualties observed from the shoot.	sibrip
I 21/8	1745		26 Bde 2/24 2 PR Bn	SITNOR	
V 28				SITNOR	
V 29	1803	ABD		SITNOR (C out of communication)	D/O advised.
V 30	1838	A		4 MS Coy front 1835	Shelley Report
		2 P/I Bn		I send snake R II	B Coy advised
V 31	1900	ACD		SITNOR	
V 32	1942	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd.
V 33	2045	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd.
V 34	2145	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd.
V 35	2255	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd.
V 36	2350	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd.

22 SEP 41.

VI	0045	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd.
I 21	0100	Bde		DEFI sibrip. Jack R 1400hrs. 50 MT. large with diggings between 38694308, 38744305, 38744307. Rd TOBRUCK - GAZALA four gps each 5 or 6 AFV's stationary. No bombings during day. Ground situation quiet.	D/O infd.

Date 22 SEP

ACTION DIARY

collected KB.

Serial No	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
V2	0140	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd.
V3	0240	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd.
V4	0344	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd
V5	0445	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd
V6	0545	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd
V7	0549	B		Patrols as previously reported Left Platoon NMS/H	D/O.
				Right Platoon Enemy working near wire. Blasting on Right flank - distance approx 300m from wire. No effort by enemy to avoid noise.	
V.8	0555	C.		Standing Patrols NMS/H.	D/O.
C68	0557	C		Shelling Report 24 hrs to 0500 hrs 22 Sept. 21 Sept.	Shelling D/O. Reports
				0700 to 0800 10mm Area C.R. 1700 to 1800 41mm 28 51 Area CC & C.H	
				1800 to 1900 16mm Area C.R. & C.H.	
V9	0610	D		35 mm left DL. 1800 to 1900 hrs 5 Patrols NMS/H.	D/O infd
V10	0640	CDB-H		Sitnor	Bde D/O infd Security Report D/O infd.
V11	0640	B		8mm BR 0630 hrs	D/O infd.
I 22/2	0725			Bde - 2/24 Br & 1 Pol Br - Sitnor	Sigs.
I 22/1	0725			Bde Patrol Reports night 21/22 Sept 4	Sigs.
W.2	0731	H		held works reports [1/1]	Major Wall
V12	0744	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O infd
V13	0844	ABCD		Sitnor.	D/O.
V14	0942	ABCD		Sitnor	D/O.
Bi/4	1015	B		SP out R11 2330 hrs to 40024268 in R11 0430 hrs	Patrol report
V15	1045	ABCD		SITNOR.	D/O
I 22/3	1130			SITNOR	
I 23	1130	26 Bde		DEFI Sitrep @ Nothing to report	
V16	1144	ABCD		SITNOR	D/O
C67	1146	C		SP 22/23 Sep. each 3 OR's leave 1930 hrs return 0515 hrs CR to 40074289 CC 40064287 CL 40064284	Patrol report

Date 22 Sep

ACTION DIARY

Noted Rb.

Serial No	Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
V 17	1245	ABCD		SITNOR	D/O
I 25	1300	26 Bde		Enemy are using mortar bombs of over 100mm with a delayed fuse & these do NOT explode until some time after landing & all ranks are to be warned forthwith	D/O All coys and mortar off advised. To Adjlt.
I 22/4	1309		ABCD HQ Mor off	As in I 25	Sigs
V 26	1310	26 Bde BLACK Z		Coordinate 40744265 RKBRRH26	
V 27	1415	ABCD		Sitnor ^{8th Henderson}	D/O info
V 28	1503	ABCD		Sitnor	D/O info
I 22/5	1510		ABCD HQ Bde	P.W. JAZZ	Sigs
V 29	1555	ABCD		Sitnor	D/O info
V 30	1604	B		EC (R8) 340° - 350° 2MG. RKKR RHAR 40044284	
V 31	1705	ABCD		Sitnor	
V 32	1718	B		advising B Silver to observe fire on Z 2	D/O info
V 33	1755	B		15MM on BL 27MM on BR at 1100 hrs.	D/O info
V 34	1810	ABCD		Sitnor	D/O info
V 35	1810		HIGH	Sitnor	Bde D/O info
O 13	1850	HIGH		Notifying Unauthorised gap in minefield at approx 4079 4242 has been closed. Call informed	ABCD HQ B ECH notified per sig runner 23/9
V 36	1900	ABCD		Sitnor	D/O info
V 37	1945	ABD		Sitnor C coy temporarily out of communication.	D/O info
V 38	1959		HIGH	Sitnor V 37 Jonestown	Bde D/O info
V 39	2010	C		In communication & SITNOR	D/O
V 40	2049	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/O adv
V 41	2147	ACD		SITNOR B off the line.	Bde D/O adv.
V 42	2155	B		SITNOR	" "
I 22/6	2200		AMOS 020W	SITNOR	Sigs
V 27	2230	HIGH		3 ME 1095 passed out at sea engaged at extreme range. Ground situation unchanged	D/O info.

22 Sept 41

ACTION DIARY

Noted RB

Period	Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION	
V43	2247	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D/ado	A
V44	2333	D		Party thought to be engineers seen by DC listening post; party were NOT challenged & were reported outside the wire 2/24 Bn	D/O info	B
V45	2345	D		Further question of runner revealed party to be inside wire & SILVER D considered this would be L.P. on left changing over. 10 Offr 20R's sent out to investigate & report.	D/O	C
V46	2350	ABCD		SITNOR	D/O Bde	D
I22/7	2350		Bde 24Bn C Coy	Notifying BIND D patrol	Sigs	

23 SEP 41.

V1	0010	B		SILVER B requesting that information of POLISH unit's activities be passed on to his Coy; advised SILVER that we were NOT notified of any patrols by POLISH unit. SILVER B requested matter be brought to SILVER BIND's notice.	Adjt informed	
V2	0045	DABC		Sitnor	Bde D/O ad	
V3	0140	DABC		Sitnor	Bde D/O Inf	
V4	0140	D		Patrol returned NMS/H	D/O Inf	
I23/1	0159		HIGH AMOB OLON	SITNOR and D's patrol report	Sigs	
V5	0245	ABCD		Sitnor	Bn D/O info	
V6	0345	DABC		Sitnor	" " "	
V7	0445	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "	
V8	0545	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "	
C74	0610	C		shelling N12 S/A NMS	D/O info	
B5	0635	B		Patrol reports OBL S/A out. 2830 in 0430 1 NCO 30M @ digging heard direction SW far distant area when firing started 0030 @ BR reports working party heard approx 10 men seen by flame		
V9	0650	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O	
I23/2	0700		Bde	Patrol reports 22/23 Sep.	Sigs.	
I23/3	0700		Bde	Shelling return	Sigs.	
I23/4	0725		OLON HIGH AMOB	Sitnor @ during arty registration yesterday evening casualty inflicted 4000-4293 @ quiet night seen	Sigs	

23 SEP 41

ACTION DIARY

SERIAL	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
I 10	0747	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O info
V 11	0910	BECD		about 22.30 hrs 21 922 Sep 2 bright lights (widely spaced as if marking two points) can be seen in direction of Tobruk from square 403 432	Bde confirmed
W 1	0930	A		2d Works report	To Maj Wall
V 12	0945	ABCD		SITNOR	DO
C 75	1010	C		2d Works report	To Maj Wall
C 71	1010	C		Manual SP's for night 23/24 Sep	
V 13	1050	ABCD		SITNOR	DO
B. i/7	1115	B		SP strength 4 out R11 2030 hrs to 40034267 in R11 0430 hrs	
I 23/5	1146			SITNOR	
V 14	1255	B		Observation across C Clays front from R8 as follows:- occupied enemy diggings at 40034284 contains at least 2 MG's. this area is the most suitable for a harassing shoot which can be observed from B. Clay area.	
V 15	1256	ABCD		Sitnor	D/O info.
I 23/6	1300			Notifying Minefield Notice Re gap at apprix 40794242 has been closed.	Sigs.
V 16	1349	ABCD		Sitnor	D/O info.
V 17	1457	ABCD		SITNOR	D/O info.
I 23/7	1459		B	Only will bombard areas 39964248 and 40034291 at 1900 hrs.	Sigs.
V 18	1550	C		At 1430 hrs Mtr. Det. in support engaged enemy sangaar at 40014286 after ranging shots 14 bombs fired 2 direct hits scored target area 1 automatic weapon destroyed and fire started 1 casualty inflicted unknown due to bad visibility 0 no movement seen since	D/O info. I 23/8
V 19	1556	ABCD		SITNOR	D/O info.

26 Bde
2/24 Bn
2 Pat onBECD
ABCD HrCOLLATED
HC
D

23 SEP

ACTION DIARY

SERIAL	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
I30	1542	Bde		DEFI report bombing 1430hrs 5 EA. dropped several bombs on mines S.E. Harbour 0820hrs 8 HE near DID. 0910hrs 6 bombs in sea off NORTH coast 0 no damage reported 0 during night enemy attack strength unknown occupied previously reported prepared sangars find their general line in squares 404921 - 405920 0 ground still quiet all informed.	To Adj. E F
O14	1600	Bde		KERA will relieve AMOB night 25/26 Sep do move main body before 2000hrs 0 Admin arrangements in accordance with G.S. Instr. 07 0 Recce parties and advanced parties by mutual arrangement between units concerned 0 bde word on completion of relief	Adj. E F
				REFEREE	
V20	1715	B		1 MM, 3 SM on BR. between 1600-1715	
I23/8	1720			SITREP	Sigs.
I23/9	1730			P/W 23/24 SEP "CHARLESTON"	Sigs
V21	1757	ABCD		SITNOR	
V22	1820	26 Bde		Black 2 advises that CAGO will carry out bombardment on Uerm 5.	Adj. infd
V23	1900	ABCD		1 SM BH otherwise sitnor	D/O infd
V24	1945	ABCD		SITNOR	Pls DO advised
V25	2045	ABCD		Sitnor	" "
V26	2100	ABCD		Sitnor	" "
I28/10	2210		24+2 Pol Bn	Sitnor	Sit
I29	2245	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O infd
I30	2345	BD AC		Sitnor	Bde " "
I32	2345	Bde		9 th Div reports ground situation quiet 0 single JU 88 dropped bombs PILISTRINO area 1650hrs No damage 0 enemy MT movement along EL ADEM component normal 0 during day JU 52 escorted by fighters flew WEST along same route	D/O infd

COLLATED

Action Diary 23 SEP 41

No	TIME	FROM	To	EVENT	ACTION
129	0330	D	LEKA	reporting beach 1 enqr OT. result BOOBY TRAP while working on D Coy front @ instruction sought ref burial @ BA relaying answer from 2/3 7th Coy.	Bde D/O info
<u>24 SEP 41</u>					
131	0002	2/37th	D	reply received @ body to be brought in	forwarded to D Coy
132	0015	D		advising that 2/3 7th Coy personnel are removing the body @ body trap was the 3 pronged 'push' type.	D/O info
133	0045	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O info
134	0045	ABC		Sitnor B temporarily out of touch	Bde D/O info
135	0100	2/37th	2/37th	Sitnor	hqs
136	0205	B		Sitnor	Bde D/O info
137	0240	DBC		Sitnor	Bde D/O info
138	0335	DA		Sitnor B+6 temporarily out of touch	Bde D/O info
139	0445	DAB		Sitnor C temporarily out of touch	Bde D/O info
140	0537	DAABC		Sitnor	Bde D/O info
141	0610	B		near R6 S/P heard digging 1 mt heard S.W. of B.T. Heavy M.T movement along escarpment 1 mt visited R.6 + R.7 2:30 hrs.	D/O info
142	0650	D		Mtr Det engaged 39964297 area with 19 bombs 12 of which landed on ^{occupied} digging causing damage to posn	
143	0655	D		S.Ps 12 Pos N.M.S. Shelling to 0500 hrs nil.	
144	0655	C		Shelling to 0500 hrs. 05/06 CC 12MM CR 7MM CH 6MM 17/18 CC 22MM CH 2MM CR 19MM CL 2MM 18/19 CC 8MM EH 4MM CR 11MM Patrol: S.P. N.M.S.	

Ballantine

24 Sept 41

24 SEP.

ACTION DIARY.

~~Cancelled~~

Time From To	EVENT	ACTION
V13 0700 B	0600 hrs. 6 gps of 8/10 enemy in area 3980 44 3980 4254 out at 0607 approx 60/80 enemy were gpd in vicinity 3980 4260 but disappeared before arty fire could be brought down.	✓
V14 0700 ABCD C 79 0700 C	Sitnor Field Works 23/24 Sept. Sand bagging of weapon pits and improvement of dugouts	Bde D/o imfd Major Wall S/o.
I 24/2 0720	AMOB HIGH Sitnor. quiet night. 0600 hrs enemy post 4001 4286 engaged by 81 mm mortars. 0617 hrs enemy occupied 3996 4297 bombarded by 81 mm mortar 12 bombs falling on target causing damage to post otherwise sitnor	Sigs
I 24/3 0724	HIGH Patrol reports V10, 12, 13 + 14	Sigs.
V15 0749 ABCD	Sitnor	Bde D/o imfd
V16 0820 C	Usual standing patrols for 24/25 SEP	D/o imfd Patrol reports
V17 0845 Bech	AA 0830 hrs. bombs dropped on Becholon 1 OR (Cpl Bird) slightly wounded, 2 MT damaged and petrol supply destroyed.	Adjt imfd
V18 0856 ABCD	Sitnor.	D/o imfd
V19 0915 A	Fld wks report.	Major Wall
I 11 0915 AMOB	Sitnor	
BI 9 0915 B	S.P. out R9. 2330 hrs 40 4002 4267 thence 4000 4267 returning R9 same route 0430 hrs. 25 SEP	Patrol reports
V20 0948 ABCD	Sitnor	
I 24/4 0945	HIGH c approx 2200 hrs 21 and 22 SEP and 2115 hrs 23 SEP 2 bright lights widely spaced as if marking 2 points have been seen in direction of Tobruk from square 403432.	Sigs
V21 1030 OLON	Sitnor	D/o imfd
V22 1040 DBAC	Sitnor	D/o imfd
I 24/5 1130	AMOB HIGH OLON c advising sitnor also V17.	Sigs

DATE. 24 SEP 41

ACTION DIARY ^{Ballard}

AL	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
23	1145	ABCD		Sitnor	D/O impd
24	1241	ACDB		Sitnor	D/O impd
25	1353	ADC		Sitnor (B out of communication)	D.O.
26	1410	Becklow		As a result of the bombing raid this morning one truck was damaged but is now being repaired and will be on the rd this evening. Another truck was completely destroyed but this truck has never been shown on our strength being an old one used to transport goods from B'ech to B'ech when a move is made. Reserve supply of petrol (2 drums) was also destroyed	D.O. and Adj't.
25	1410	26 Bde		DEFI report minelaying bombing attack 0410 to 0520 hrs @ Estimated 13 planes @ possibly 14 mines in harbour @ Bombs outside harbour boom and at 0830 hrs 2 sticks vicinity BSD @ No damage reported @ Patrols did not make contact during night but one offr one OR killed and 4 ORs wounded in enemy mine and antipersonnel	D.O. and Adj't
27	1430	B		SITNOR	D.O.
28	1453	BAD		SITNOR	DO
29	1510	C		SITNOR excepting that CR and CC are out of direct communication	DO
	1525			Bw 2d works file and file on fd works and camouflage taken by Capt. W. Haworth	
24/6	1535	ABCD Ha Bde		PW "ALBERTS"	Sigs
30	1547	ABD		SITNOR	DO
31	1630	C		SITNOR	DO
32	1647	ABCD		SITNOR	DO
24/7	1726			26 Bde 24 Bn 2 Ptd. Bn SITNOR	Sigs
33	1740	B		23 SM BH otherwise SITNOR	
34	1748	CORK		Bearing 260° 2500' 3990 4288 Mortar firing on CC probably	D.O. CO BLACK
35	1805	2/24		SITNOR	DO
35	1850	B		BL 8 BR 12 BH 2 all SM otherwise sitnor	DO
36	1810			BCD 26 Bde Notification of patrols	Sigs.
36	1910	DA		SITNOR	
37	1950	ABD		SITNOR C out firing lines now.	Bde D.O. impd.

Henderson

DATE: 24 Sep

ACTION DIARY

Collated

Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
V38 2047	DACB		Sitnor	Bde D/O info
V39 2147	DACB		Sitnor	Bde D/O info
24/9 2200		Amos Olsen	Sitnor	Seg's
V40 2240	DBAC		Sitnor	Bde D/O info
V41 2344	DABC		Sitnor	Bde D/O info
T38 2347	HIGH		Enemy arty in EAST shelled harbour during AM approx 40 shells fell in harbour but no damage reported. TAC.R 1000 hrs 21 Sept	D/O info
<p>H. ths. 10 MT 30 TENTS EL ADEM. 30 huts 418404 423406 ETSEWE 300 MT ETHEN3. 14 tents 442408 424409 EETEWS. 10 MT 30 tents ETEEW4</p> <p>Ground situation remains unchanged.</p>				

25 Sept. A1.

V.1. 0014	DBAC		Sitnor	Bde D/O info
V2 0047	D		Engineers left D for B.H.Q. 1/19	Ado C D/O info
V3 0140	D		Sitnor	Bde D/O info
V4 0145	A		Sitnor	Bde D/O info
V5 0145	C		Sitnor	Bde D/O info
V6 0145	B		Sitnor	Bde D/O info
I 25/9 0200.		2/24 2 Photos	Sitnor	Seg's
V7 0231	D		SITNOR	Bde D.O
V8 0252	ABC		SITNOR	advised
V9 0345	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D.O. advised.
V10 0445	DABC		SITNOR	Bde D.O. advised
V11 0547	DABC		SITNOR	Bde D.O. advised
V12 0600	B		A shoot on GERM 5 was made but fire was a little delayed owing to bad communications. Only one round gun fire was laid down. Another shoot will be made tomorrow	D.O.
C 82 0625	C		Shelling report to 0500 hrs 0 0700 to 0800 CR 21 MM CC 9 MM 0900 to 1000 CL 7MM CC 10MM 1700 to 1800 CR 8MM CH 5MM	Shelling report SPK
V13 0637	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D.O. advised
J1		Bde	Shelling reports	
B1 0657	B		BL Number 1 reports sound of digging, chiseling about 200' WEST also sounds like concrete mixer or driller at work No.2 sec reports slight sound of digging	

ACTION DIARY

Collated A

ate 25 SEP

Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
			in westerly direction No 3 sec slight sound of picking about foot of escarpment BR report rather quiet night a little digging and blasting heard as on previous nights @ left sec trucks again heard moving around foot as on previous night thought to be ration trucks @ Working parties and blasting also heard.	DO and patrol report to Bde. Collation file
I25/2 0700		26 Bde	Patrol reports.	✓
V14 0736	D		At 0620 hrs mortar detachment engaged enemy diggings at 399 ⁵ 430 ² 39964302 211° 600M	✓
D18 0737	D		3d works report	To Maj Wall
I25/3 0740		26 Bde 2/24 Bn 2 Polish Bn	Sitrep quiet night @ 0550 hrs several gps approx 100 enemy 39804260 area and moved into diggings sappers along foot of escarpment @ temporary breaks in arty's comms prevented engagement @ 0620 hrs enemy occupied digging 399 ⁵ 430 ² engaged with 81 mm mortar @ 3 bombs fell amongst several enemy but dust prevented assessment damage or casualties @ total 15 bombs on target area @ sitnor	Sigs. ✓
V15 0753	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde DO advised
C80 0800	C		Usual SP for 25/26 Sep @ Additional patrols each INCO 4 OR's from CR to 40044288 and from CL to 40044284 leaving at 1930 hrs returning 0530 hrs	Patrol books Bde + Corp advised ✓
S1 0800	C		3d Works report	To Maj Wall
V16 0848	A		Sitnor	
V17 0858	D		3 EA (1 Bengued bomber or transport with 2 fighter escorts) flew NE to SW over D Coy 1500 ft descending to 1000 ft.	D.O. ✓
V18 0902	CORK		At 0845 3 planes seen one of which came down as low as 200 ft.	DO.
V19 0910	CDB		SITNOR J Henderson	DO
I25/4 0930		B ECH	Advise details any bombing raids your area this morning.	D.O. ✓
W2 0930	A		3d. Works return	Adjlt.
V20 0945	ADC		SITNOR	
V21 1020	B		4 SM on BH otherwise SITNOR	Sbb
C12 1030	B ech		Raid 0840 hrs bombs well clear of area	Adjlt.

DATE 25 Sep 41

ACTION DIARY

Ballasted *[initials]*

Serial	Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
V22	1040	ABCD		SITNOR	D/O info
I25/5	1117		Bde 24 POLES	SITREP	Sigs
V23	1146	B		3 SM 13 MM on BR otherwise SITNOR	D/O
V24	1147	ACD		SITNOR	"
V25	1235	B		11 MM on BL 12 MM on BR	D/O
V26	1240	A		SITNOR	
A15	1300	Bde		SITREP 0.3 EA. flew over AA03 area at 0845 hrs 0 one large plane escorted by two radial engine fighters with ITAMMA markings came from WEST flew to SW over escarpment	D/O.
V27	1350	ABCD		SITNOR	D/O.
5/12	1400	B		SP out R.9 2330 hrs to 10034266 thence to 10004266 in R9 0430 hrs 26 SEP.	Patrol Bde and Book, Long advised
IAT	1400	Bde		SITREP	I Summary.
V28	1404	B		1 MM on BR.	Adjlt.
V29	1442	ABCD		Sitnor	D/O info
V30	1544	HBCD		Sitnor	D/O info
V31	1642	ABCD		Sitnor	D/O info
25/6	1645		ABCD HQ Bde	P.W. CAR	Sigs
25/7	1710		26 Bde BCD	Notification of patrols.	Sigs
25/8	1730		26 Bde 2/24 2 Patrol Bn	SITNOR	Sigs
V32	1744	HBCD		Sitnor	D/O info
V33	1847	HBCD		Sitnor	D/O info
V34	1911	HBCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O info
V35	2010	ABCD		Sitnor	Bde D/O adv.
V36	2130	BCAD		Sitnor	" " "
V37	2240	ABCD		Sitnor	" " "
I43	2300	Bde		Repi setup @ situation quiet except for enemy MG and mortar fire on position 0 no details available 0 no bombing.	D/O.
V44	2335	BAD E		Sitnor	Bde D/O adv.
V45		A		<u>26 Sep 41.</u>	
V45	0040	DBAC		Sitnor	Bde D/O adv.
V46	0145	DBAC		Sitnor	" " "
26/1	0200		2/24 2 Patrols	"	Sigs
V47	0235	DACB		"	Bde D/O info.
V48	0335	DBAC		"	Bde D/O info.
V49	0439	DBAC		"	Bde D/O info.

L. J. French

W. H. [unclear]

26 SEP 41

ACTION DIARY

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SERIAL	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
50 ^V	0545	CDAB		SITNOR	D/O Bde info
287 ^C	0600	C		Shelling report to 0500hrs today @ 1700hrs -1800hrs CORK 3 SL @ Patriots all report NMS/H	
	0635		Bde	Shelling sheets in duplicate.	
V51	0650	ACDB		Sitnor	
V52	0650	B		Patrol reports @ BR heard 1MT visit R6 & R7 2100hrs also digging; ✓ probable wearing blankets & pneumatic drill being used between R6 & R7 B.L. heard faint sound digging 1500' WEST & hammering on 315° as if in a TK (light) which is 500' out. Voice heard 500' approx	
I26/2	0707		Bde	Patrol Reports 25/26 Sep.	
I26/3	0716		Bde Just 1	Patrols. Sitrep. Usual evening work parties heard during night @ shelling lighter @ Sitnor	sgs
V53	0750	DA BC		Sitnor	
BN8	0750			CR reports our mortar engaged enemy sangers with 26 bombs six direct hits remainder in target area, estimate of damage impossible.	D/O
C85	0800	C		Usual standing patrols 26/27 Sep @ Patriots 4 OR's leave CR 1930hrs to 40044288 return 0515hrs @ Patrol INCO 3 OR's leave CL 1930 hrs to 40044284 return 0515 hrs.	Patrol reports
V54	0810	KERA		SITNOR	D/O
V55	0853	DBCA		SITNOR	D.O.
BI13	0902	B		SP same as night 25/26 Sep	Patrol reports
C85	2015	C		Usual standing patrols 26/27 Sept @ Patrol 4 OR's leave CR 1930 hrs to 40044288 return 0515 @ Patrol INCO 3 OR's leave CL 1930 to 40044284 return 0515 hrs	Patrol reports (this is a repeat of a message already entered)
V56	0944	DABC		SITNOR	DO
V57	1025	LEO		Thy cloud of dust over Medaun	DO
V58	1040	BCAD		SITNOR	DO
I26/4	1050		DCB HQ	Advice by 1500hrs locations of all VICKERS guns and lines of fire by compass bearings	Sigs.

DATE: 26 SEP

ACTION DIARY

battered *H.*

Serial	Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
W2	1118	A		Bd Works report	Adj ^t .
V59	1116			b.o. called for tests to determine times taken for CP and DF fire requesting Arty LO. on C.P. "U"	b.o.
V60	1131			No fire yet brought down despite efforts of L.O. so b.o. cancelled instr and asked for DF fire on 'QMN' DF tests	b.o.
V61	1142			No fire - CO cancelled request still no DF. so same washed out	
V62	1142			Predicted fire then called for on 399650 427250 corrections to be made by 'B' Coy (at post R9)	b.o.
D20	1145	D		Rel return (in reply to I 26/4)	
V63	1148	ABCD		SITNOR	DO
I 26/5	1150		26 Bde 2/24 2	Pol Br. Sitrep our mortars engaged enemy sangers 6 direct hits scored @ Unable estimate damage @ otherwise sitnor	Sigs.
V64	1201			Still no fire on 399650 427250 so whole matter was washed out.	b.o.
M62	1237	R.MO.		RAP will move to 40284277 at 1500 hrs @ present position retained as alternative	Adj ^t
O26	1237	26 Bde		Special personnel now at your B echs will be distributed amongst fwd SUB UNITS for experience tonight @ ack.	Adj ^t
V65	1345	D		Report heavy concentration of dust in direction of Madamaur. Will advise any further developments	Adj ^t
V66	1345	ABCD		SITNOR	
V67	1445	ABCD		SITNOR	
V68	1450	D		235° two heavy explosions SW of efedamir. ✓	
I 46	1525	DEFI		DEFI report considerable increased arty activity @ western sector during late afternoon @ several enemy aircraft over during night but no hostile action @ 0700 single ME109 engaged at extreme range @ increased movement of enemy aircraft along ELADEN occupation morning 26 th Sept @ 0718 hrs eight unidentified fighters flew EAST returning WEST 0725 HRS @ 0723 hrs nine ME109 flew east returning west @ 0845 hrs 1020 hrs two JU52s flew WEST @ Patrol failed to make contact @ ground sit unchanged.	o/o

26 Sep

ACTION DIARY.

Callahan *et al*

SERIAL	TIME	FROM	TO	E V E N T	ACTION.
V69	1553	ACD		SITNOR	
V70	1558	B		14 SM ON BL, and 5 MM ON BR.	
A61	1607	BIND	ABCD HQ	ONE RED will be fired approx 2100hrs today from DON LONDON to be repeated by DON and OP room.	Ligs
V62	1610	BIND	KERA	repeat A61.	Sigs.
V71	1645	B		5 SM BL 3 SM BH.	
V72	1648	ACD		SITNOR.	
V73	1633			CO called for CP sack "P"	
V74	1643			Lo reports 1 shot fired	
V75	1644			CO called for DF NO 15 shot fired at 1647	
V76	1647			" " " " NO 17 " " " 1650	
V76	1700	BIND	H16H	VICKERS MMD trace 26 th Sept enclosed in H16H despatch	DR.
V26/7	1707	BIND	ABCD HQ	PW 26/27 BOAT.	Sigs.
V77	1730	BIND	BLEN 26 BDE KERA OLON	SITNOR	Sigs.
V78	1803	B		SILVER enquiring re fire on B boys front: 1803 hrs enemy light signal followed by mortar and M.G. fire mainly B boy front	B.O. info.
V79	1810	D		Enemy putting up white flares and considerable M.G. and mortar fire put down on B boy front	B.O. info.
V80	1812	C		Stray M.G. fire on C front; all pl's report nothing seen.	B.O. info.
V81	1816	B		White signal from vicinity of R5 and M.G. and mortar fire ceased. Firing lasted approx. 6 minutes.	
A1	1807	A		five white flares B COY front	O/O
V82	1830	B		Report 5 or 6 small groups of enemy moving downwards BL (approx 3993 4264)	✓
V83	1830	B		White flare from R7 at 1830 followed by 3 red tracers. *	✓
V84	1840	B		1 MT has pulled up in rear of party as V82.	D/O
V85	1855	ACD		SITNOR	
V86	1855	B		SITNOR	
V87	1945	ABCD		SITNOR	

Allington: Red of Orange

DATE 26th SEPT 41

ACTION DIARY

collated by [initials]

Serial	Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
V88	2004		HIGH	1345 hrs boy clouds dust WEST of MEDAOWAS suggesting much MT. 1803 hrs enemy fired white flares followed by intense M.G. and MORTAR fire on BIND. B. lasting 6 minutes terminating with white flares vicinity R.S. No casualties. 1830 hrs 60 enemy in 6 gpts approached to 39934264 followed shortly by 1. M.T.	By D/O
V89	2043	DBHC		Sitnor	Adv D/O info
	2100	BIND observed		Saw 2 very lights fired (red) in D Boy direction	By D/O
	2102	D/O - BIND		fired flare (red) as per practise S.D.F.	By D/O
R1	2107	H		Red flare D Boy front 2109 hrs (watch not synchronized)	By D/O
	2107	H		Practise S.D.F. Don Coy Area 2101	D/O info
	2108	Arty Off reports		Arty troops reports saw 1 to 3 flares	D/O info
V90	2134	ABCD		Sitnor	Adv D/O info
V91	2135	D		2132 Enemy flares Green - Red - White Red White Red 2000x S.W. from D.C. Pkt HQS.	D/O info
V92	2140	A		2135 Enemy flares white ^{over} red (three times) S.W. from left of pl.	D/O info
I26/8	2200		AMOB OKON	SITREP. Re message V 88.	Sigs
V93	2247	ABCD		Sitnor	Adv D/O info
	2305	D		Reporting: Cpl Brown killed by KP. Heine on skin to KERA	D/O info
I48	2330	HIGH		0800 hrs single unidentified plane dropped bombs S.E. perimeter. Enemy arty in east fired 32 shells into harbour. but 26 did not explode no damage. Polish arty effectively engaged enemy working party 40/50 1810 hrs. ground situation unchanged.	
V95	2347	ABCD		Sitnor	Adv D/O info

27 SEPT 41

V1	0046	DHCB		Sitnor	Adv D/O info
VV	0147	ABCD		Sitnor	Adv D/O info
I27/1	0200		AMOB OKON	Sitnor	Sigs
V3	0237	BCAD		SITNOR	Adv D/O advised
V4	0345	ABCD		SITNOR	Adv D/O advised
V5	0445	BCD		SITNOR	Adv D/O "

DATE 27 Sep

ACTION DIARY

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Serial	Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
V6	0550	B		BR left sect: Working party, MT, on left at 2135 hrs signal light fired red green white red green white shells at 2350 a babel of excited voices heard and work to front ceased. Rt sec: Digging to 2245 when work ceased Blasting at 135° BL N°1 Slight sounds digging fwd R 7 until 2300 hrs Digging then ceased when arty sent over shells N°2 & N°3 405/4 0500 hrs. MT door banged & then engine started forward WEST 241° 1500'	D.O.
V7	0555	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D.O. advised
V8	0630	D		S.P.s & M.P.s - N.M.S.	
V9	0635	ACDB		Sitnor	
V10	0645	C		L.P.s & S.P.s N.M.S. - Shelling reports to 0500 hrs NIL.	
I27/2	0705			Bde Patrol reports 26/27 Sep.	Sigs
I27/3	0725			Bde Sitrep to 0730 hrs @ as per 2/48 Bde 1704 BN Copy of message on file	Sigs.
V11	0745	BADC		SITNOR	D.O.
	0715		26 Bde	Shelling reports	Sigs.
V12	0750	B		Following early morning MG fire 0625 a red cross flag appeared from diggings 39980 427553. After short interval 4 men (1 carrying flag) marched to derelect vehicle at 3996 4277. Another party of 5 with flag and stretcher moved from R6 to same vehicle. After 10 mins at vehicle both parties returned to respective posts. Party from R6 had 1 man on stretcher and walking party from diggings had none. When all had reached their posts flags were lowered and situation became normal. <u>Anderson</u>	D.O.
V13	0850	D.B		Sitnor	D/O
C89	0900	C		Ld works return.	Adpt
C88	0900	C		Usual S.P. for 27/28 SEP.	"
W2	0910	A		Ld works return	"
I27/4	0929		Bde	0625 hrs following MG fire by BIND B an enemy porous red cross flags were shown at 39984275 and R6. O.S.B's moved	Sigs.

SEP 27

SERIAL	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
I27/4				from each point carrying flags to 39964277 returning 0635 hrs carrying 1 and assisting 1 walking wounded	Signs
31/16	0925	B		S.P. same as night-26/27 SEP	
V14	0935	ABDC		SITNOR	D/O info
V15	1037	BAC		SITNOR	
I27/5	1127		Bde 2/48 2-Pol. Bde	Sitnor	Signs
V16	1155	ADC		Sitnor	
I50	1210	Bde.		Defi report patrols did not contact enemy night 26/27 Sep @ 0404 - 0432 one bombing on mine. Laying attacks on harbour by 3 unidentified EA @ all mines or bombs fell on land and exploded @ 0720 6 low fighters flew EAST @ planes identified ITMIAW having white bands around tail & fuselage @ ground situation quiet	Adjst.
V17	1245	CADC		Sitnor	D/O
V18	1345	C		Sitnor	
O29	1347	Bde.		Ref Bde. Int. Summary No. 166 delete last sentence on page one.	Adjst.
V19	1415	Bde		Message O29 cancelled	Adjst info
I27/6	1429		HBCD HQ BECH	P.W. 27/28 Sep 'SHIP'	Signs
V20	1447	HBCD		Sitnor	D/O info
I27/7	1515		HIGH B.C.D.	Usual S.Ps and L.Ps by forward coys night 27/28 Sept	Signs
V21	1541	DCAB		Sitnor	D/O info
V22	1630	D		3 AM. on DL ✓ 1 appeared to be direct hit	D/O info
V23	1647	C B.A		Sitnor	D/O info
V24	1659	D		Heavy mortars on D.L. Arty fire asked for	D/O Arty off.
V25	1708	D		1 round ⁴⁵ arty fire direct on target	D/O Recorded as retaliation
V26	1710	D		4 rounds ⁴⁵ arty fire direct on target approx 39974302	D/O Target No 1
I27/8	1730		HIGH KERR OLSON	Sitrep	Signs
V27	1730	D		Report 1 men 2 MG's in sector post approx 39994298 50x long. arty intend engaging targets. fire held up by EA over tp. position. retaliation 1734 hrs shot 1 not seen by D by. 1735 shot target No 2 2 1000x 100'clock. shot 3 700x 180'clock. 1742 hrs shot 4 700x 100'clock. 1745 shot 5 200x 120'clock.	Recorded as retaliation
V38	1747	ABC		Sitnor	D/O info
V39	1824	D		Reporting heavy machine gunning by	

24 SEPT 41

Action DIARY

Serial	Time	From	To	Event	Action.
V39	(cont)			target known ^{roughly approx as 3992 4294} at Retaliation No 2	D/O and Arty
V40	1830	D		Arty called for to engage same with 4.5 amm Shot 1. could not receive results because D.R. out of communication	Off advised No info
V41	1835	D		Shot 2 50x from end of enemy trenches	No info
V42	1839	D		Shot 3 direct hits - approx 3992 4294	No info
V43	1844	D		1 Round Gunfire direct hits according to observer. D.R.	No info
V44	1844	D		Repeated 1 Round Gunfire direct hits	No info
V45	1850	ABCD		SITNOR	No info
V46	1854	D		Confirmation of direct hits by D.C. on the 4.5 Artillery shoot - Retaliation No 2	No info
V47	1951	ABCD		SITNOR also V24-26 V39-V46. L.F. Hendy	Bde D/O inf
V48	2045	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D.O. advised.
V49	2140	BCDA		SITNOR	Bde D.O. "
V50	2225	D		Map reference mentioned in "D" Coy report as 39974301 should read 39994298. Some 7.92 amm requested by Bde also sent in for examination and verification.	Noted & Corrected AM
V51	2243	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D.O. advised
I27/8	2245		2/48 Bn 2 POLISH Bn	SITNOR	Sigs.
V52	2345	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D.O. advised
<u>28 SEP 41</u>					
V1	0042	CABD		SITNOR	Bde D.O. advised
I53	0109	26 Bde		DEFI report 1630 hrs one JU88 dropped 10 bombs WADI AVDA area. 4 casualties incl 2 serious but no material damage. 1903 to 1951 hrs three unidentified EA dropped bombs NW town. No damage reported. Movement enemy MT EL ADEM escarpment during day 116 EAST 151 WEST. ground situation unchanged. generally increased ground activity opposite RAS EL MEDAUUAR sector also by mortar MG and arty fire on isolated posts this sector. During day enemy arty in EAST fired approx 20 shells at harbour many failing to explode. This evening vessel shelled leaving harbour. some near misses but no damage all informed.	D.O.

DATE 28 SEP

ACTION DIARY

Serial	Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
V 2	0142	DCBA		SITNOB	Bde DO. advised
I 28/1	0150		2/48 Bn 2 Polish Bn	SITNOB	Sigs
V 3	0240	CDAB		Sitmor	Bde Dps adv.
V 4	0345	CBDM		"	" " "
V 5	0445	DBCA.		"	" " "
V 6	0520	DBCA.		"	" " "
V 7	0550	C		Shelling report to 0500 hrs. 28 Sep. 1600-1700 9 mm CC6 CH. 3. 1700-1800 13 mm CC7 CH. 6. Patrol Reports - NMS/H	D/O.
V 8	0610	D		Patrol Reports - NMS.	D/O.
	0645	B		Blasting heard to their front BL number 1 LP - 4 men observed at 4th & flame thrower 315° - appeared to the marking no 2 & 3 LP - NMS/H @ BR mt. section MT movement to front. little blasting on marks @ Left section & no 10 men observed on skyline 1900 hrs @ ^{due WEST} MT movement about sea level - no marking party.	
V 9		ABCD		Sitmor	Bde D/O. adv.
I 28/2	0655			Bde Patrol reports 27/28 Sep	Sigs
I 28/3	0720			Bde 48 Bn - 2 Pol Bn. Quiet night - sitmor	Sigs.
I 28/4	0700			Bde Shelling report	Sigs
V 10	0740	2/48		Sitmor	D/O.
V 11	0745	ABCD		"	Bde D/O adv.
V 12	0845	DABC		Sitmor	D/O adv
V 2	0924	A		Field Works 27 Sept. 25' crawl trenches sand bagged prepared 60' crawl trenches for blasting & sleeping bays strengthened general development of systems.	Major Wall.
V 13	0947	ABCD		Sitmor	D/O info
O 31	1035	HIGH		Ref DIV GS instr 013. BIND and LOUT will proceed to Range direct ODLA will pick up refs from KERA at 40234335 1315 hrs AMOB and HIGH at HIGH 1330 hrs. LEUT CUDLIPD will receive reports from Range	D/O 9 Adj
V 1A	1045	ABCD		Sitmor	D/O info

28 SEPT 41

ACTION DIARY

Serial	Time	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
I28/5	1130		HQ KERR	Sitnor	Sigs
V15	1144	BDCA		Sitnor	S/O info
C91	1145	C		Field works return for night 27/28 Sept sandbagging of weapon pits. Improvement to weapon pits and dugouts. Assisting R.A.E with mine laying	Asst
C90	1145	C		usual S/P for 28/29 Sept	S/O info
BI/17	1147	B		S/P same as night 28/29 Sept Polish Arty ^{NINE} registering targets X and X.2.	S/O info
V16	1149	DR		Shot 1 on X direct hit DR observing	S/O info
V17	1152	D.C		Shot 1 on X.2. 50x at 10 o'clock	D.C observing "
V18	1155	D.C.		Shot 2 on X.2. 60x " 8 o'clock	" "
V19	1157	RC		Shot 3 on X.2. 50x " 5 o'clock	" "
V20	1200	D.C		Shot 4 on X.2. direct on target area	" "
V21	1205	D		Area well taped with shots.	" "
	1211	B		CAGO BLACK having his Arty register target Z "H Troop. Arty OP observing at B.H"	S/O
I55	1230	HIGH		DEFI report 0752 hrs one J.V. 88 dropped bombs between H.H. H.Q and BARDIA - DERNA RD. JUNCTION. No damage. Shelling normal in South increased EAST and WEST Patrol VAKE contacted enemy strong post in PILASTRINO sector. patrol penetrated wire defences and after some close fighting withdrew. Our casualties 1 Killed & 2 missing. unable to estimate number of casualties inflicted on enemy.	S/O "adit"
V22	1244	H.B.C.D		Sitnor	S/O info
V23	1349	H.B.C.D		Sitnor	S/O info
V24	1442	ABDC		SITNOR	D.O.
I28/6	1515		ABC HQ Bde	PW "CYCLE"	Sigs
I28/7	1559		26 Bde BCD	Notification of patrols	
V25	1600	ABC1		SITNOR	

DATE 28 SEP

ACTION DIARY

Serial	Time	From	To	Event	Action
V26	1605	BL		Reporting sounds of M.T. for the past hour noise was at first thought to be aircraft but the continuity suggests M.T. Behind escarpment bearing 196° to 244°	Bde notified
V27	1655	ABCD		SITNOR	
V28	1715	26 Bde		Requesting any information regarding or large no. of EA which has landed on EL ADEM	Coy contacted
V29	1730	BC		Sounds of aircraft heard about 1515 hrs for at least 30 minutes.	Bde notified
V30	1742	D		No EA seen or heard	
I28/3	1746		26 Bde 2/48 hrs	2 Polish Bn SITNOR	
V31	1810	B		15 SM BR otherwise silent	DO
V32	1811	DAC		SITNOR	DO
V33	1845	DABC		SITNOR	
V34	1910			BIND SILVER left for B Coy	
I28/9	1950		ABCD HQ Bde	B16 minefield has been extended 800 yds NE to 42174247015 yd gap on track nearest BARDIA rd & other tracks closed & all informed	Sigs
V35	1951	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde DO advised
V36	2040	CDAB		Silent	" " "
V37	2112	D		S.D.Z. heard - flare fired.	DO.
V38	2113	A		Practice S.D.F. New Coy. 2105 hrs.	"
V38	2115	A		Runners reports 1 red flare seen over D & one between C & D.	"
				Runners reports from Y Pl. Same as No 8	"
				(Coy's matches synchronized with Adj's matches was 9 mins. faster than OP room's match)	"
V39	2140	BCDA		Silent	Bde D/O adv.
V40	2140	B		C.O. decamping B	D/O infd.
V41	2137	Adj's		1 EA dropped sticks of bombs approx. 3000' E.S.E. of BIANCA.	Bde D/O adv.
V42	2243	ACBD		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd.
I58	2325	HIGH		SITREP. DEFI report at 1903 hrs five EA engaged in minelaying 0 one mine on SOUTH shore of harbour one in sea near outer boom one NOT located 09 bombs fell near sweeper entering harbour	

28 Sep 41

ACTION DIARY.

SERIAL	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
				<p>○ M.T. meet along EL ADEM escarpment up to 1630 hrs today 86 vch EAST 63 WEST ○ G. carrying convoy observed moving EAST 1630 hrs ○ 1535 hrs BOND I OP reported 100 enemy inf. 1000X SOUTH of BOND I ○ enemy engaged by our arty and dispersed ○ strong fighting patrol will be sent to BOND I area to night ○ all informed</p>	D/O infd.
BOND I OP is at 41474164					
V42	2350	BDCA		SITNOR	D/O infd Bde
				<u>29 SEP 41</u>	
V.1	0045	DBCA		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd.
V2	0135	BDCA		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd.
V3	0240	BCHD		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd
V4	0340	DBCA		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd
V5	0440	BDAC		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd
V.6	0547	DCAB		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd
V7	0630	D		Patrols 28/29 N.M.S.	Bde notified
V8	0640	BDCA		SITNOR	Bde D/O infd
C97	0641	C		shelling report to 0500 hrs 29 Sep 1800 to 1900 hrs C.L 5.5m. 10m.m. 1900 to 1930 hrs C.P 7mm. 5/P and L.P report N.M.S/H	Bde inf
B 10	0654	B		<p>Patrol report. B.R L.P usual M.T movement, no digging little blasting heard at 2000 hrs. 2 signals in south red, green, red, green. At 2100 hrs explosion A/TX gun or mortar 2105 hrs 2 red signals in N.E. 2115 hrs 1 red signal in S.E. H.Y transport on night. BL heavy MT movement over escarpment. just before daybreak 1 MT. seen by platoon commander. 1830 hrs sounds of MT and men taking up tools in S.E.</p>	D/O
I 29/1	0730			HIGH	Patrol reports BIND B-C D 28/29
I 29/2	0730			HIGH KERD OLON	SITREP

29 SEPTEMBER 41

ACTION DIARY

Serial	TIME	FROM TO	EVENT	ACTION
V.9	0712	C.D.A.B	Sitnor	Bae Spimfa
C95	0724	C	Usual S/P for 29/30 Sep	Stoimfa
V10	0845	DCAB	SITNOR	C.O.
C96	0754	C	2d Works report	Adjf
I 1/A	0940		Monthly report covering Sep for war diary required by 2 OCT.	Sigs
V11	0945	ABCD	SITNOR.	D.O.
V12	1045	ABCD	SITNOR.	D.O.
V13	1132	Bde L.O.	BOND1 OP is at 41474164	
I 29/3	1130		SITNOR.	Sigs
V14	1144	DABC	SITNOR.	D.O.
V15	1240	ABCD	SITNOR.	D.O.
V16	1347	ADBC	SITNOR.	D.O.
I 6!	1418	26 Bde	DEFI subrep 01930hrs to 2315 hrs eleven raids by single EA O bombs dropped harbour area and near PERONNE PW.SS EL GUBBI A.O.D. O no material damage O shelling quiet all areas during 28 SEP O intensified D/O info. WESTERN sector at dusk and during night PW.I Summary as result our patrols O patrols EAST and SOUTH made no contact O strong fighting patrols directed against enemy strong points TWIN PIMPLES 398939 failed to reach objective as recce observed and by D.F. put down O patrol withdrew without casualties.	
V17	1445	ACDB	SITNOR	D/O info.
V18	1455	D	0705 hrs 2 Mtrs. engaged enemy rangars & diggings 39954307 ^{with 69 rds.} all bombs fell in ^{target} area 2 or 3 rangars were seen to be hit. Shoot was considered to be quite successful but on account of dust dose observation was not possible.	
V19	1545	DACB	SITNOR	D/O info.
I 29/4	1616	ABCD	Please furnish a return immediately showing fort names and number of personnel occupying same.	Sigs
V20	1645	ABCD	SITNOR	D/O info.
I 29/5	1700	ABCDHQ BECH	PW 29/30 SEP SCOOTER	Sigs.

29 SEP

ACTION DIARY

SERIAL	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
I 29/6	1727		OLON KERA	SITREP 1730hrs O SITNOR	Sigs.
A1.	1750		HIGH HIGH	details of posts and numbers of personnel occupying them. (in reply to HIGH GREENS D/R. verbal message see I 29/4)	
V21	1845	ABCD		SITNOR.	D/O info.
V22	1935	D,C,A,B		SITNOR.	Bde D/O info
V23	2047	HBCD		SITNOR.	Bde D/O info
V24	2142	D,B,C,H		SITNOR	
V25	2147	D.		2130 DR - report enemy patrol strength Bde + 3 approached our wire in extended formation. Were fired on with LMG and rifle and withdrew. Since withdrawal several bursts of enemy M.M.G on that platoon (DR Area).	
I 29/7	2200		KERA OLON	SITREP V 25	Sigs
I 63	2214	HIGH		BOMBING today 1600 hrs one J.V.88 dropped 4 bombs area #11438 1710 hrs one J.V.88 at 21,000 feet dropped 10 bombs in yard admiralty house - no casualties or material damage. 0945 hrs enemy arty EAST shelled NORTH point only one shell near harbour others N.W town near wall. Ground situation quiet	Bde D/O info Bde info
I 29/8	2250		ABCD	Message I.63.	Sigs
V26	2251	D,A,B,C		SITNOR	Bde D/O info
V27	2247	B		4 min forward B.L 2240 hrs	A.O info
V28	2340	D,C,H,B		SITNOR	Bde D/O info

30TH SEPT 41

V.1	0044	B.H.C.D		Sitnor	Bde D/O info
V.2.	0142	AB.CD		Sitnor	Bde D/O info
I 30/1	0200		KERA OLON	Sitnor	Sigs
V3	0240	DCAB		SITNOR.	Bde D.O advised
V4	0335	DCBA		SITNOR	Bde D.O. advised
V5	0436	DABC		SITNOR	Bde D.O. advised
V6	0538	DABC		SITNOR	Bde D.O. advised

Date 30 SEP

ACTION DIARY

Serial	Time	From	To	Event	Action
B 11	0615	B		Patrol reports @ BR right sec. only one explosion heard approx 290° 600' @ left see little picking and shovelling heard approx 270° @ 3 mortars on R 9 @ machine operating from approx 320° Blasting well back in front of C @ BL NMS/H	D.O. Sh. Bk.
V 7	0627	D		Patrols NMS No further shelling	D.O. advised
C 101	0635	C		Shelling report to 0500 hrs @ 1600 to 1700 hrs CR 11 MM CP 5 MM 1700 to 1800 hrs CR 8 SL CP 2 SL Patrols report NMS but at 2030 hrs 29 Sep sound of blasting heard at approx 40014287.	
V 8	0640	ABCD		SITNOR	Bde D.O. advised
J 1	0700		26 Bde	Shelling Reports	Sigs
I 30/2	0645		26 Bde	Patrol reports @ blasting heard 40014287 and R 6 @ NM	Sigs
I 30/3	0720		26 Bde 2/48 Bn 2 Patrols	Quiet night shelling normal sitnor	Sigs
V 9	0744	ABCD		SITNOR	D.O. advised J Henderson
V 10	0845 0854	DCB		Situar. Turin engines Boulder - single redder white cross markings flew over HQ area WEST at 300ft - appeared to turn NORTH when over 209.	
VII	0900	BECH		EA dropped 5 bombs on BECH area no damage or casualties.	D/O infd.
V 12	0940	D, BC, A		SITNOR	D/O infd.
V 13	1035	DC, AB		SITNOR	"
V 14	1143	C, DA		SITNOR	"
V 15	1145	B		4 SM on BH	Sh. Bk.
V 16	1243	A		SITNOR	
C 98	1320	C		Annual S.P.'s for 30 Sep/Oct	Adj't.
C 100	1320	C		Tied the return.	
V 17	1350	C		SITNOR	D/O.
I 65	1350	Bde		DEFI report quiet night no bombing but 0905 hrs two planes dropped bombs BSD and BARDIA rd. W.P. @ no damage reported @ enemy shelling F.D.L.'s normal all sectors @ patrols ARAP came under mortar MG fire from	

SEP 30 41

ACTION DIARY.

SERIAL	TIME	FROM	To	EVENT	ACTION
				42444225 @ riflemen returned fire @ no. casualties @ ground situation unchanged	No info. Adjlt.
V.18	1444	A.B.C.D.		Sitnor	D/O info
I 30/A	1534		B.	Stri Table 30th Sep.	Sigs
V.19	1544	A B C D		Sitnor	D/O info
C.102	1547	C		unable to supply party at strength requested Suggest 50% reduction	Ry info info
C102	1547	C		PAG pass, 2 sections 5 and wearing for minimum of 15 men carried out by boy on night 29/30 Sept	No Adjlt info
V20	1644	A.B.C.D		Sitnor	D/O info
D29	1700	D		3 ambush parties strength INCO HQ. C 3 ORS out 150x forward wire. DR. D.C, D.L. out 2115. in 0100 hrs or before	+ Bde. KERR not
V21	1735	A B C D		Sitnor	D/O info
I 30/2	1735			Sitrip	Sigs
I 30/6	1757			P.W. "PLANE" 30 Sep. / 1 Oct.	Sigs
V22	1847	A B C D		Sitnor	D/O info
I 30/7	1849			'Guid' DON patrol notification	Sigs
V23	1900	B		S/P as usual Sep 30 / 1 Oct	D/O info
V24	1944	A.B.C.D		Sitnor	Bde D/O info
V25	2053	A B C D		Sitnor	Bde D.O. advised
V26	2120	B		0330hrs From BL move 180° for 400x then 270° until 0430hrs will look for minefield and follow that line, return same route. strength INCO 4 ORS	Bde ATAB CD Coys notifi
V27	2144	A B C D		SITNOR	Bde D.O. advised
I 30/8	2150			Notifying of B Coys patrol	Sigs
I 30/9	2210			SITNOR	Sigs
V28	2250	BDAC		SITNOR	Bde D.O. advised
V29	2335			1 light showing SE from here for about 15 minutes from 2320hrs. 2 planes ^{at} interval of 10 minutes flew WEST to EAST while this light showing. light possibly a guide to planes.	Bde D.O. advised
V30	2340	BDCA		SITNOR	Bde D.O. advised
I 68	2341	26 Bde		Bombing attacks @ 1100 hrs 8 bombs between WADI AUDA BSD @ 1200 hrs 9 bombs NORTH POINT NE ORDNANCE @ 1345 hrs sticks bombs BARDIA Rd	

ACTION DIARY

ate 30 Sep

Serial	Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
				WP @ 1730 hrs struck bombs near FORT SOLARO @ 2000 hrs 4/5 enemy aircraft bombing and possibly mine-laying attack @ Bombs near distillery SOUTH shore causing fire in waste oil or tar no other damage reported @ Slight shelling harbour town area during morning by enemy arty in EAST @ ground situation quiet @ all informed	